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# JOHN BULL

Vol. XIV. No. 354. SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1913. ONE PENNY

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

For meaning of this No. see Page ii. of Cover.

*The world is a bundle of hay;*
*Mankind are the asses who pull;*
*Each tugs it a different way,*
*And the greatest of all is John Bull*

—BYRON.

Edited by
**HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.**

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*Full particulars on page 391.*

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The following claims have been received in respect of our issues of February 8th and February 15th:—

H. HOLDEN, Esq., Lent Green, Burnham, Bucks. February 8th. No. 689,869.

T. W. BLOW, Esq., 16, Curzon Street, Leicester. February 15th. No. 879,512.

HENRY HEBDEN, Esq., 45, Franklin Road, Harrogate. February 15th. No. 599,919.

E. R. COBLEY, Esq., 1, Portland Terrace, Westbourne Street, Hull. February 15th. N. 271,673.

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of March 8th:—

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8587 | 199688 | 325487 | 539076 | 707358 |
| 16327 | 204005 | 358476 | 562084 | 748416 |
| 19253 | 207348 | 381.95 | 597544 | 795212 |
| 36577 | 228382 | 396244 | 598862 | 866184 |
| 81846 | 250992 | 417958 | 614072 | 873968 |
| 92968 | 251073 | 436429 | 624589 | 874707 |
| 104697 | 260520 | 473946 | 647022 | 893110 |
| 131820 | 272526 | 492012 | 667228 | 915410 |
| 140579 | 312288 | 502424 | 674749 | 938661 |
| 166565 | 317614 | 516312 | 699129 | 954950 |

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR NEXT ISSUE (PUBLISHED MARCH 19TH.)

SEE PAGE 391.

# FOOTBALL COMPETITION. NO. 3.

SEE PAGE 391.

## 'JOHN BULL" Entrance Form.

**Matches Played Saturday, March 22nd.**

Cross out—in ink—what you think will be the losing club. For a draw do not cross out either club.

| | |
|---|---|
| Derby County | v. Newcastle United |
| Manchester U. | v. Aston Villa |
| Middlesbro' | v. Bolton W. |
| Notts County | v. Liverpool |
| W. Bromwich A. | v. Bradford City |
| Barnsley | v. Preston N. E. |
| Birmingham | v. Notts Forest |
| Blackpool | v. Bristol City |
| Bury | v. Hull City |
| Fulham | v. Burnley |
| Huddersfield | v. Lincoln C. |
| Leeds City | v. Clapton O. |
| Gillingham | v. Coventry. |
| Northampton | v. Brighton |
| Queen's Park R. | v. West Ham |
| Brentford | v. Exeter City |
| Bristol Rovers | v. Swindon |
| Norwich C. | v. Watford |
| Southampton | v. Crystal Palace |
| Stoke | v. Plymouth |

I enter JOHN BULL Football Competition in accordance with the rules announced on this page and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

*Signed*.....

*Address*.....

.....

**Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.**

## RULES

**WHICH SHOULD BE READ CAREFULLY.**

1. On the Entrance Form attached cross out in ink, by running a pen through the names, the teams you think will lose. If you predict a DRAW do not cross out either team.

2. Having done this, write in ink (typewriting or pencilling will not do) your name and address in the space provided, cut out the Entrance Form, and address it to "JOHN BULL," 25, Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C., mark envelope, in top left-hand corner, Football Competition No. 3, so as to reach us not later than first post Friday, March 21st, but please send early to facilitate the work of examination.

3. The First Prize of £6 a week for Life will be awarded to the competitor whose Entry Form contains the correct results, as published in the "Sporting Life," of all the matches given, played to a finish on March 22nd. In the event of no entrance form being received giving the whole of the correct results, the Pension Prize of £3 a week for life will be paid to the competitor whose coupon shows the most correct results short of the full number. In addition, the sum of £500 in cash will be paid to the sender of the entrance form containing the next highest number of correct forecasts. Thus in any event both a Pension Prize and £500 in cash must be won. If a lady does not win any of the foregoing prizes, £100 will be awarded to the lady whose coupon gives the greatest number of correct forecasts.

4. No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any effort, and no correspondence will be entered into, neither will interviews be granted. But the utmost care will be taken of all coupons received. Individual competitors may send in as many entries as they wish, and any number of entries may be enclosed in the same envelope. Friends may send their entries together in one envelope.

5. The Editor's published decision on all matters relating to this competition is final and legally binding, and competitors may enter only on this understanding.

6. Any effort on which any alteration of any description has been made will be disqualified. Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

7. In the event of a tie or ties in this competition the First Pension Prize of £6 a week for Life or the Second Pension Prize of £3 a week for life, as well as the £500 cash prize, and the special £100 prize for ladies only, will be equally divided.

8. No coupon bearing a Scottish address can be accepted.

**THE CLOSING DATE IS FRIDAY, MARCH 21st.**

# JOHN BULL.

*Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant :*
*Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.*

Vol. XIV. No. 354. Week ending Saturday, March 15th, 1913. One Penny.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE.

*Letters must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters. All* **FINANCIAL, INSURANCE** *and* **SPORTING** *enquiries should be addressed to the* **CITY OFFICES, 52, NEW BROAD STREET, E.C.** *All other communications should be addressed to* **93, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.**

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## The John Bull League.

### BRISTOL AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

**THE PRESIDENT,**

HORATIO BOTTOMLEY,

**WILL ADDRESS A PUBLIC MEETING**

**AT THE COLSTON HALL,**

**ON FRIDAY, 14th MARCH.**

**DOORS OPEN AT 7 p.m. CHAIR TO BE TAKEN AT 8 p.m.**

**ORGAN RECITAL, 7.15 p.m., by Mr. GEORGE RISELEY.**

**ADMISSION** at 7 p.m. (by ticket) **FREE.** Admission at 7.30 p.m. can be obtained on the production of a current copy of this Journal.

Reserved seats 1/-, the entire proceeds to be devoted to the local funds of the League. For tickets apply to the Local Secretary, Mr. W. P. FRANKHAM, The College, Westbury-on-Trym or from Messrs. B. G. BROWN, 4, Rozel Road, Horfield; G. T. CLEMENTS, 234, Newfoundland Road; S. CLEAK, 11, Argyle Road, St. Paul's; A. E. SAVERY, 24, Anglesea Place, Clifton: and also of the Local Chairman, Mr. M. WALDRON, 9, Devon Road, Fishponds. Stamped addressed envelope must accompany each application.

## THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

*[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]*

**The L.C.C.**

Elsewhere we deal with the Party aspect of the recent election. What a farce the whole thing was—absolutely devoid of reality. Not half the electors on the register troubled to record their votes, and, despite all the howling of the rival sides, scarcely anyone took the remotest interest in the result. The simple fact is that London is not one city but a collection of cities, whose interests are so diverse that anything like a common cause is out of the question. Hence the desperate efforts of the Party wire-pullers to entice the municipal fish into their net.

**Women and the Vote.**

Incidentally, the election should have afforded an object lesson in the strength of the movement for female suffrage. There are many thousands of women on the county register, and it would be interesting to know how many of them exercised the franchise. Being ratepayers, they had a direct personal interest in the contest, and the figures should prove most illuminating. And there is a simple way of arriving at them. Let Mr. Burns call for all the Lists of Voters used by the various Returning Officers. He will find a tick against the name of everyone who voted. The rest is simple.

**Ireland and London.**

We even had the Irish leaders brought into the game, Mr. T. P. O'Connor and Mr. Redmond issuing a joint manifesto. Now, "T.P." is an acute politician, a distinguished and versatile journalist, and a genial, good-humoured fellow—but we doubt whether he is an authority upon London civic government. Nevertheless, we had him, with Mr. Redmond, urging Londoners to vote "Progressive." They have discovered by now that the dodge did not work.

**The K.C. and HIS "Pigs"!**

We were talking, the other day, to an eminent K.C., who is also a well-known member of the House of Commons, on the subject of the Party system, which, of course, he strongly defended—being in the running for a good job soon! "Your idea of a Business Government," said he, "is all nonsense. It sounds plausible to talk of an expert at the head of each Department, but all experience shows that to get the best results you must have a layman in supreme control, holding the balance and deciding between the experts." "Then why not try it with the Law?" we replied—but that, of course, was "quite a different thing"! We have all heard of the Socialist who *had* two pigs!

**Bad Example.**

"It is perfectly amazing to notice the amount of cant talked by trades-unionists," says Mr. G. N. Barnes, M.P. We have often remarked the same thing—to say nothing of Labour Members of Parliament. The M.P.s, of course, are paid for it, but there is really no excuse for the trades-unionists. Perhaps it's the force of bad example.

**Reassuring!**

We are, of course, sorry to hear of the disaster in the German navy, resulting in the loss of a considerable number of lives. But, after all, they will have to get used to this kind of thing.

**"We DON'T Think."**

By the way, General Von Der Goltz is one of the new German pacifists. "A war in Europe," he says, "would be a war for the whole of Europe, and we shall not see that." With due respect to the General, we are not prepared to take his word for it. We shall see—what we shall see.

**Our Record Football Prize of £6 a week for Life almost Won. See page 369.**

**A Way They Have in the Navy.**

We trust all our salaried legislators pay adequate attention to the various Appropriation Accounts which are issued from time to time. They make quite interesting reading, provided one is not too squeamish as to the way in which public money is spent. In the last batch of Navy Accounts there is a case of an engineer-sub-lieutenant who, after only two years' service, was invalided on half pay. This misfortune, however, does not seem to have materially affected his prospects, for although certified as incurable by the doctor he was promoted to the rank of Engineer-Lieutenant and his half pay increased from £20 to £100 per annum. Five weeks later he was compulsorily retired from the service and will therefore enjoy for the rest of his life an annual pension which is £80 in excess of that to which he is justly entitled by the rules of the service. This looks uncommonly like a piece of jobbery. It is neither fair dealing nor sound finance, and we trust some member of Parliament will make it his business to enquire further into the matter now the House is reassembling.

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**Bread, Buns, and Bakers.**

Industrial unrest is by no means confined to the railways. The taxi drivers' dispute is not yet settled, and the journeymen bakers are preparing for a big fight. The conditions obtaining among the bakers do appear to be intolerable. In these days, when bread-making is almost a lost art outside the trade, a bakers' strike would be a most serious business, and would undoubtedly have the effect of arousing public interest in the grievances of the men. It is by no means certain, however, that a strike is an effectual means of enlisting sympathy, and we trust an accommodation may yet be reached. Unfortunately, the men entertain a profound mistrust of the masters, which in many cases is not ill-founded. As Easter again approaches, we are reminded of a journeyman baker who once complained to us that after working nearly twenty hours a day, for a week, at a starving pittance, he was rebuked by his employer for not marking the Good Friday buns with the symbol of the Christian religion!

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**Who's Who in the Law Courts.**

Mr. Justice Parker's elevation to the Appellate Court of the House of Lords was generally expected and will be received with satisfaction if without enthusiasm. The new Lord of Appeal is a quiet, painstaking judge, with a reputation for shrewdness of judgment and fairness of method. We cannot affect to regard the appointment of Mr. Sargant to the vacant Chancery judgeship with equal satisfaction, although, of course, he may be a most estimable person and a perfect prodigy of legal learning. But surely it is desirable that a man who is elevated to the Supreme Bench should bear a name which is calculated to inspire confidence among the public at large. There is, not unnaturally, a good deal of heart-burning in the Temple over Mr. Sargant's appointment. There are at least a dozen men at the Chancery Bar whose names are household words in commercial circles and the appointment of any one of whom would have been free from objection.

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**Houghton-le-Spring Politics.**

The various political candidates in the Houghton-le-Spring by-election are having a fine old time. Mr. Tom Wing, the Liberal, is shouting "Trust the Government"; Mr. Alderman House, the Labour man, is shouting "Trust yourselves," and Mr. Richardson, the Tory candidate, is shouting "Trust the People." The electors have our leave to pick where they like. It is all trust.

**Mustard for Mustardettes.**

Already there have been sporadic outbursts of mob-vengeance upon militant suffragettes. Such manifestations are but the natural outcome of the failure of the authorities to deal adequately with the window-smashing and bomb-throwing tactics of the Pankhurst crew. A proper respect for law and order and the rights of property is deeply ingrained in the average Briton, and he violently resents the appearance upon public platforms of women who have been permitted to flout his notions of propriety with comparative impunity. We cannot doubt that conflicts between the suffragettes and the public will become more common and more serious as time goes on. When Mr. McKenna has to call out the military to suppress a riot, resulting from his own slackness, he may realise the full extent of the mischief which may be done when a Minister subordinates his sense of public duty to maudlin sentimentality.

---

**Wary Woodrow.**

Dr. Woodrow Wilson evidently does not intend to adhere slavishly to precedent during his tenure of the White House. Much comment has been aroused by his refusal to become an honorary member of certain clubs in the vicinity of Washington, which are usually graced by the head of the United States Government for the time being. Whether Dr. Wilson's refusal of these honours is due to prejudice or to previous experience, we are unable to say; but, presumably, he has a right to choose his clubs for himself, like any other citizen. We trust that when he comes to the serious business of government he will be as ready to resist pressure and to "keep a stiff upper lip" as over this somewhat trivial matter. The President's main business at the moment is Cabinet making. It looks as though the lawyers, as usual, are to have a pretty good picking, and Dr. Wilson will need all the firmness he can muster if he is to keep the saddle with dignity and comfort.

---

**The New Broom.**

We are very glad to note that Dr. Wilson has intimated his intention of withdrawing from the position taken up by President Taft with regard to the Panama Canal tolls. The whole question will be dealt with by the new Administration, when formed, and there can now be little doubt that the terms of the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty will be strictly observed; that is to say, the canal will be open on equal terms to the shipping of all nations. This is the only interpretation of the Treaty consistent with American honour and British interests, and we congratulate Dr. Wilson upon his frank recognition of United States treaty obligations. Had the American Government adhered to the position originally adopted by Mr. Taft, there must inevitably have been an unseemly rupture in the relations between the two countries. Dr. Wilson's good sense has avoided any such disaster.

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**Candid Mary.**

For charm of candour commend us to Mrs. Mary Marsh, a Southend widow. Having stolen 86 yards of linenette from a draper in the town, the good lady subsequently explained at the seat of judgment that she took it because she was short of money—a delightful change for the pleading of the ordinary kleptomaniac, who usually explains that she stole because she wasn't. The magistrates appear to have been as delighted with the lady's regard for truth as was the late Mr. George Washington, senior, in the case of his little boy, for they offered Mary her freedom for £1 and costs. We hope to hear that in this crisis, at any rate, she wasn't short.

**Our Third Football Competition—Final Coupon this week—**

**Lucky Bramwell.**

"General" Bramwell Booth must have been born under a lucky star. Hardly have we done congratulating him upon a four-figured legacy when we read that he is to be the recipient of the Nobel Prize of £1,000, for "eminent services to the cause of International peace." We fear that these unexpected strokes of fortune may turn the new "General's" head, more especially when they are coupled with fulsome compliments. The directors of the Nobel Prize Fund declare that "the Salvation Army has for nearly forty years been the greatest International peace factor in the world." We respect people who are prepared to back their fancy to the tune of a cool thousand, but we really shouldn't have thought it. Perhaps the "General" will be good enough to drop a line to Herr von Jagou, and let us know the result.

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**One Month Only.**

They have some kind, tender-hearted magistrates at Oswestry. What would be your judgment in the case of a savage of the type of William Archibald, proved to have thrust a pike through a cat, pinned it to a beam, called two female fellow servants to watch him hack it first with an axe and then with a shovel, incited a dog to worry it, and finally buried it before it was dead? For this almost unspeakable cruelty, the magistrates thought one month's hard labour enough. We don't; not by twice as much again.

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**A Chapel Scoundrel.**

From Oswestry to Nantwich is not a very far cry, and a similar sloppy notion of justice exists among the bench there. A hypocritical secretary of a Methodist Sunday-school, of the name of Moulton, lives at Stapeley. A certain 13-year-old girl attended the school. Going along the road one night he met this child, persuaded her to "come with him a little way along the road," and taking advantage of her defencelessness, committed acts of indecency towards her. And there was warrant for supposing that he had deliberately marked her down for his designs. "Taking into consideration his youth," the magistrates fined this despicable beast £5 and costs. His age was 25! It only remains for us to express the hope that their worships will use their utmost endeavours to induce him to retain his post in the Sunday-school.

---

**Bravo, Cardinal!**

Cardinal Bourne, Archbishop of Westminster, is the latest public man to give utterance to our plea. Speaking at the Hampstead Town Hall last week, his Eminence said that it was a great gain that there were a certain number of people in the country who had the courage at times to leave Party politics alone. It seemed to him that "if all people could do that, the purifying effect upon politics would be enormous." They wanted men who were sufficiently detached from Party to set it aside at the call of conscience. And the audience said "Hear, hear."

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**An Australian Compliment.**

Somebody who has been telling fairy tales, in the *Lytham* (Lancs) *Times*, about prospects in Australia has been sharply pulled up by Mr. P. Johnson, of Melbourne. "I can quote cases with numbers," he says, "in which people who have arrived have been out of employment for months . . . If the readers of your paper want the truth, let them read JOHN BULL, as it is wicked to see people arriving who have been duped from beginning to end." We would not go as far as to say that it is wicked to see them, but it is certainly wicked to lure them.

**"Oily Hughes" Again.**

The Rev. W. Hughes, although "dead," still speaketh. He is the arrant humbug who some time ago ran what he was pleased to call the African Institute, Colwyn Bay. Our readers will remember that we were the means of closing the doors of this den of iniquity, and our parting advice to the oily scoundrel—who for years had been battening upon subscriptions drawn from a charitable public—was to do some honest toil for a livelihood. His latest dodge is to issue in pamphlet form a booklet giving a report from his returned students—and incidentally making an appeal for funds to buy himself an annuity! We sincerely hope that Hughes will appeal in vain. When we had him under cross-examination at Flint Assizes we proved to the entire satisfaction of Judge and Jury that he was a fraud, a liar, and altogether unworthy to have the prefix of Reverend to his name.

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**Land Grabbing at Doncaster.**

To enable them to alter the racecourse for the straight mile, the Doncaster Corporation have enclosed a further portion of the public common. There is, of course, the question whether the inhabitants of Doncaster, in whose interests the Corporation are professedly acting, will receive more advantage by their representatives stealing this slice of common than by keeping the Eighth Commandment. In any case, the Corporation ought to go about the business in a legal, and not an arbitrary, way. Apparently they have neither obtained the consent of the Board of Agriculture to the enclosure, nor advertised their intention as required by law. The matter is one of balancing public rights and public interests. For this reason the Mayor should call a town's meeting to gather the general trend of opinion.

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**A Word to Eastbourne.**

We do not pretend to understand the reasons which have actuated the Eastbourne Town Council in their refusal to grant permission for the erection of a memorial tablet on the sea-front to Mr. Wesley Woodward, one of the bandsmen who went down with the *Titanic*, and who was formerly a member of the Eastbourne municipal orchestra. We cannot think that the Councillors have rightly interpreted the sentiment of the people of Eastbourne in this matter. By no stretch of imagination can it be thought that a simple mural tablet would impair the beauty of a sea-wall, while it would be a lasting tribute to the memory of one who showed that in the hour of trial he could play the man.

---

**"Hello" Girls' Night Work.**

Since our remarks on the working of telephone girls after nightfall, the Postmaster-General has discovered that this is "an administrative error," and instructions have been given that female operators under eighteen shall not be kept at work in the exchanges after 8.15 p.m. But if under eighteen, why not over eighteen? What is the difference? The Postmaster will possibly shelter himself behind the excuse that girls over eighteen are presumably better able to take care of themselves. He has been trying to work girls at all exchanges until 9.15 p.m., though under the Company *régime* they left at 8 o'clock.

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**Randy the Second.**

We have been reading of the arrival of Monsieur Randolph Churchill at Beaulieu, in the South of France. This is probably one of the young gentleman's first appearances in print. If there be anything in the laws of heredity, we wager it will not be the last.

**Turn to Page 391 and enter now. It is Your Last Chance.**

**The Sin of Samuel.**

Our readers may remember that there was a great deal of discussion last autumn as to certain silver contracts between the India Office and the firm of Samuel Montagu and Co., of which Sir Stuart Samuel, the M.P. for Whitechapel, is a member. Some time before Christmas a Select Committee was appointed to consider whether Sir Samuel ought to vacate his seat in view of the fact that his firm had contracted with the Government for the supply of silver at a profit. The Committee deliberated—as committees are wont to do—and finally reported to the House of Commons. The gist of their report was that they had heard counsel for the Government and counsel for Sir Stuart Samuel with the result that they were, if anything, in a slightly thicker fog than when they started. This did not look very promising, but by a happy inspiration the Committee were able to suggest that the whole question should be referred to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, and the House of Commons agreed to this course. This was about a month ago, and now we learn that the Judicial Committee will approach the consideration of the question on March 13th or 14th—so we are getting on. There will doubtless be sundry adjournments and delays, but with reasonable luck we may look for a definite pronouncement from the Judges—say, by midsummer. What will happen then? Possibly a second Select Committee will be appointed by Parliament to review the decision of the Judicial Committee and report what action the House of Commons should take thereon. It will doubtless appear later on that the whole business has cost the nation a pretty penny with committee costs, law costs, and the rest. Meanwhile, Sir Stuart Samuel is M.P. for Whitechapel, although, should it finally appear that he is required in law to vacate his seat, he will be liable to a penalty of £500 for every time he has sat and voted since the signing of the silver contract—the penalties being recoverable by any "common informer."

**Religious Horrifics.**

A disgraceful leaflet is being circulated in Kirkcaldy by our old friend "Charles E. Gumbleton, Salvation Army Officer." It seems to be designed to beat his previous efforts in religious appeals. In one part of the circular is, as usual, a likeness of Mr. Gumbleton, who is pointing to the opposite corner, where one skeleton is riding a white horse over a city, while another turns a windlass and winds people out of the streets into a churchyard. Above are the words, "I am winding to the grave over 96,480 people every day. I am coming to your house"; below, "This year thou shalt die. Does this mean me? Jer. 28—16." The circular proceeds to inform the people of Kirkcaldy that if they are good when they die "there will be a band of angels to carry them to heaven, where there are white robes, Mansions, Crowns, Harps, and Streets of Gold"; but that if they are naughty they will "feel the pains of the second death, and look at the darkness and listen to the roar of the eternal storm and be with the lost spirits, lost men, lost women, and worst of all be in a lost eternity for ever." A nice religion to go to sleep with in the dark! We were hoping we had heard the last of gloomy Gumbleton

**There's Hair!**

There is a rival to Paderewski in Mr. F. Wilkins, a Burghill publican, who swore lang syne that he wouldn't get his hair cut until the Liberals were turned out of office. When last observed by his customers, Mr. Wilkins could hardly be seen for hair, and, unless Mr. Asquith resigns at an early date it won't be long before he is unable to see himself.

**A Peer and His Pension.**

Many people are under the impression that the late Earl Nelson, who recently died at the age of 93, was a son, or, at any rate, a lineal descendant of the hero of Trafalgar. As a matter of fact, he was the son of a nephew of a brother of the great Horatio. We have nothing to say against the grant of pensions and allowances to men who have fought the nation's battles and maintained her naval or military renown, but it certainly seems a little absurd that a person so remotely related should have enjoyed a pension of £5,000 per annum for no less than 78 years. £390,000 is a pretty heavy payment to make to a man for no better reason than his chance relationship to a distinguished admiral. There should surely be some time limit in such matters. There is a phrase beloved of the lawyers which would generously meet the case—"Life or lives in being and twenty-one years after." This would ensure the continuance of the pension to all persons now living and a substantial start in life to the heir of the last pensioner. A pension in perpetuity for services rendered by an ancestor is a ridiculous and wasteful anomaly.

**Meanness of the Admiralty.**

However, we associate ourselves with Mrs. Higgon Evans's protest against the shameful action of the Admiralty, in connection with the funeral of her husband, the late Deputy Inspector-General Evans. Mrs. Evans and other relatives of the deceased officer were naturally anxious that he should be interred with full naval honours, and they accordingly made application to the Admiralty for this purpose. To their surprise and indignation, they were told that they could have a naval funeral at their own expense. Rather than allow her husband to be buried without those honours, which he had earned by many years of loyal service to the Crown, Mrs. Evans wired her consent to bear the cost, and a full naval funeral took place. The widow now applies to the Admiralty for a reconsideration of her case, and we trust the officials there will do their best to make belated amends for the insult offered to the memory of the dead officer. Mrs. Evans's total income is but £80 a year!

**Shall He Hang?**

Private T. Lyon, of the 1st North Hants, has been tried by court-martial for the heinous offence of laughing. This grave breach of military discipline was, it seems, brought about because the criminal, while proceeding to parade, *heard a funny remark.* At the time of going to press we have not learnt what his sentence is, but we should not be surprised if the public hangman's services are requisitioned! A pretty state of affairs, to be sure, that we have this kind of indiscipline in the ranks of our Army! If Lyon's plea had been that he had seen "some funny things" while going to parade, we should have been inclined to recommend him for promotion, instead of conviction.

**Eden Phillpotts on Party.**

"I stand for Tinocracy," he said. "For the pursuit of honour and a constitution based upon the principle that the honour of the State must be paramount and outweigh every other consideration. What honour can any Party government pay to the State? The house divided against itself falleth, the principle of Party government is a pure anachronism to-day, though, of course, nobody sees it. I suppose the house will go on dividing against itself a little longer, and then a coalition will open the eyes of England, and we shall all see what hopeless fools we've been, wasting precious time under our twopenny-halfpenny Party flags. It couldn't be helped, I know that; but it will be helped pretty soon."—From "The Joy of Youth."

**"Bullets" Prizes Value over £20,000 already Awarded.**

**Spankhurstianism.**

As we have already said, the public temper is rising against the suffragettes, and a vast deal of good would be done if it rose a little higher and a little faster. If the Home Secretary cannot defend the public, then there is nothing else for the public to do but to defend itself. The outrageous women should no longer be allowed to presume on the privileges of their sex.

**Beautiful Mary!**

Once again we direct the attention of our readers to the splendid dress in which *Mrs. Bull* now appears under her very own name of *Mary Bull*—every Friday, instead of Tuesday, as heretofore. If you are not already doing so, will you please take her home with you—just once? Your womenfolk will do the rest.

**Join the League.**

The veteran Earl of Wemyss is interested in the raising of a fund to combat Socialism and believes that this can best be done by Independent Political Associations. We sympathise with the noble earl's sentiments. He should join the John Bull League.

**What Is Nagging?**

Probably not many henpecked husbands will agree with Mr. I. A. Symmons, the Greenwich police magistrate, that "nagging" is the constant reiteration of unpleasant truths. They probably regard it as the constant iteration of unpleasant untruths.

## OUR SECOND GREAT FOOTBALL COMPETITION.

### £600 in Cash for an Andover Reader.—Life Pension of £6 a Week Missed by One Point.

*We are very sorry that, by just one point,* **Mr. Thomas Hawkins, of 4, George Yard, Andover, Hants,** *has missed our colossal life pension of £6 a week. We are a little disappointed that our football experts have not done better—as a matter of fact, as Mr. Hawkins has shown clearly, the prospect of a competitor forecasting the results, without goals, of nineteen football matches is by no means remote. However, he has clearly proved the absurdity of the ignorant carping of the goody-goody Press, on the ground that the feat was practically impossible of accomplishment. It would have given us great pleasure to have rewarded Mr. Hawkins' skill by placing him beyond the reach of anxiety during his life, but, as it is, he secures the handsome sum of* **£600 in cash,** *and, we are sure, the hearty congratulations of all the other competitors, as well as the readers of this journal and the sporting public generally. In the* **third competition,** *which is just about to close (the final coupon appearing in this issue), we shall, however,* IN ANY EVENT, *pay a* **life-pension**—*for, should there be no competitor able to forecast the twenty results and thus secure the £6 a week, the one who gives the greatest number correctly will receive* **£3 a week for life, while the "runner-up" to him or her will get £500 in cash.** *In addition, the most accurate of the ladies, should she fail to obtain one of the larger prizes, will be presented with £100 in cash.*

## OUR NEXT GREAT COMPETITION.

WE SHALL NEXT WEEK ANNOUNCE ANOTHER COLOSSAL CONTEST, WHICH WILL STAGGER THE SPORTING WORLD. FOR THE MAGNITUDE OF THE PRIZES OFFERED AND THE SIMPLICITY OF THE TASK TO BE ACCOMPLISHED, THE "JOHN BULL" COMPETITIONS ARE UNIQUE. OUR NEXT GREAT CONTEST WILL PROVE EVEN MORE ATTRACTIVE THAN ANYTHING WE HAVE EVER DONE.

## "John Bull's" Biscuits.

["*Taking the Biscuit*" *has become a classic phrase, expressive of a satirical reward or recognition. In this column we present, in all good humour, the token to such of our contemporaries and others as may have distinguished themselves by some unconventional utterance or act.*]

*For stating in an answer to a correspondent that: "We are distinctly of opinion that washing the* HEAD *frequently with soap and water and having it* CUT *often would be preferable for preventing baldness, as you fear,"*

*THE SUNDAY CHRONICLE*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For stating in its report of the visit of the "North Sea Airship" that: "When Captain Lundie saw it, it was coming along from east-north-east and was heading* NORTH-SOUTH-*west,"*

*THE DAILY EXPRESS*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For stating in its announcement of a Golf Competition that: "All that is required is a* FINE DAY, *which* WE ARE TAKING STEPS TO ARRANGE,"

*THE FURNITURE RECORD*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For publishing in its issue for March 8th a tale, of one of the characters in which it is stated that: "Her* ARMS *were in reality about him,* TALKING, LAUGHING *and* SOBBING,"

*THE PENNY MAGAZINE*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For advertising in the "Church Family Newspaper":* "BOILING OWLS 4*s.* 6*d. Trussed free.*"

MISS BLANDFIELD (Bandon, Cork)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For stating, according to the "Yarmouth Mercury's" report of a recent case, that: "The Bench were sorry to see a man of defendant's position there* FOR THE FIRST TIME,"

MR. A. HARBORD (Chairman of the Yarmouth Magistrates)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For publishing a photograph of the Prince of Wales running with a Magdalen boat at Oxford, and printing as an inset a photograph of the Lent Races at* CAMBRIDGE, *described as "the scene which he is following so eagerly,"*

*THE DAILY GRAPHIC*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For stating in its report of the Inter-League Football match, Scotland v. England, that: "Mercer, with* A LONG SHOT, *added a further* TWO *goals before the interval,"*

*THE STAFFORDSHIRE SENTINEL*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For stating that "The* MISERS —— *have generously presented a bagatelle table to the Rev. L. Butler, as an aid to his social work among the youths and young men,"*

*THE EAST COAST ILLUSTRATED NEWS AND CLACTON GRAPHIC*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

*For publishing an article entitled "Tempest-bound on the Monch," containing the sentence: "Seizing courage in* BOTH HANDS *and the rope in* THE OTHER, *it was possible to assist in my uplifting to the safe steps in the ice-wall,"*

*THE STRAND MAGAZINE*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

**HALF-A-CROWN FOR EVERY "BISCUIT" PUBLISHED.**

*We give 2s. 6d. to the sender of every "Biscuit" published. Should the same item be forwarded by several competitors, preference will be given to the one whose letter is first opened. In forwarding newspaper cuttings, sufficient must be sent to identify the name of the paper and date of issue. Envelopes must be marked* "BISCUIT." and addressed to "*The Biscuit Editor.*"

**This Week both a LIFE PENSION and £500 MUST be Won. Final Coupon.**

# PARTY HUMBUG IN EXCELSIS.

## BEWILDERING THE MUNICIPAL ELECTOR—THE REAL MEANING OF "L.C.C."

By the Editor.

I am at present engaged in a campaign, under the auspices of the John Bull League, against the evil of Party in relation to the government of the country—and I think the movement is making rapid headway, even the strongest champions of the present system having to admit that it is intrinsically unsound and dishonest, and is, at best, a necessary fraud in public life. But, however much people may dispute my contention that Business is the sole principle which should regulate the administration of the affairs of the State—the term Business, in this connection, connoting the placing at the head of each Government Department a man who has practical, expert knowledge of its work—surely there can be no real difference of opinion concerning the proposition that the work of a body like the London County Council—the successor of the old Metropolitan Board of Works—is essentially of a Business character and that the election of its members, upon which we have just been engaged, should be determined by their personal aptitude and qualifications for the management of the affairs of the metropolis, and by nothing else.

### The Party Microbe.

Yet so persistent and virulent is the Party microbe that it has affected even this branch of the public service, with the result that the recent campaign has been nothing but a match between the two political sides in lying, exaggeration, misrepresentation and cant. No wonder the poor elector is bewildered and disgusted. I have before me two of the official leaflets issued by the "Municipal Reformers" and the "Progressives" respectively, and I propose to quote from them. I take first the question of the care of the children of London. Very stupidly, Parliament has deputed their education to this municipal authority, having abolished the old School Board—which at any rate possessed the advantage of being composed of persons who took a special interest in educational matters. Well, of course, this was a favourite topic with each of the Parties. Needless to say, the "Progressives," having been in "opposition," were bound to charge the "Government"—*i.e.*, the "Municipal Reformers"—with the betrayal of their trust. And this is what they said:—

> We ask for the removal of the present guardians of these little ones because they have overcrowded the schools, have failed to build new ones in districts where badly needed, have neglected to provide adequate accommodation for crippled and mentally defective children, have harried and worried the polytechnics, and have discouraged the evening schools.

Now let us turn to the Reformers' leaflet—"Love for Little Londoners" they head their record:—

> They determined to study the little ones; to help each according to its need, and to help the parents too. . . . The wise and loving provision made by the Municipal Reformers for little Londoners is regarded as a model to educational authorities throughout the world. London parents who love their children will support the Municipal Reformers and secure that the benefits now given will be continued.

Now we will take the Tramway service. This is what the Progressives said:—

> All we plead for is fair play for the trams. . . . Unless a more sympathetic directorate is appointed, let there be no mistake—the trams are in grave danger.

I wonder whether they really were, or are! Certainly when I turn to the Reformers' leaflet I am reassured on the point:—

> They have doubled the electric tramways and made it easier for every Londoner to travel.
> Under Progressives; miles of electric trams, 58½.
> Under Reformers; miles of electric trams, 134.
> For good tramway work, for a sound service, for cheaper fares, vote for the Reformers.

Puzzle—find the Liar!

And so I could go on quoting—lie against lie, misrepresentation against misrepresentation. But I turn to the Party press—to find just the same thing. "If," says the *Daily Telegraph*, "the Socialist-Radical coalition obtain a working majority on the London County Council they hope to squeeze out the City Corporation, to put handcuffs on the twenty-eight Metropolitan Borough Councils, and to hold London to ransom." To which the *Daily News* replies:—"We want London for the people who live and work and die in it, who make its wealth and bear its burdens. We do not want one London for the rich and another for the poor. *We want a just London for all.* We want Westminster to pay the same as Hackney; the ground landlords to pay as well as the shopkeeper."

And then the Progressive "leader," Sir John Benn, chirps in, with a "yearning for unity":—

> But, taking higher ground than the ratepayer, we, the Progressives, decline to "rest and be thankful" while our London remains a congeries of conflicting authorities without form and voice. Our opponents would leave things as they are. They nail their colours to the parish pump. We desire that ours shall fly from the Mansion House of a United London. They strive to preserve the "splendid isolation" of the wealthy Cities—the old City and Westminster—side by side with the ill-conditioned isolation of the poorer boroughs. We claim that those boroughs, now treated as undesirable relations, should become honoured partners in a reformed Corporation.

And, of course, the result of the Election afforded an opportunity for a final shriek on each side. According to the *Daily News*, "it means that London will be ruled for another three years, and three critical years, by a Party who have proved very bad stewards of London's interest." This is backed up by the *Daily Chronicle*, which says it "was a bad day for London—for the trams, for education, and for all the immediate hopes of the long overdue reform of London Government. The Londoners who have sent so few of their number to the ballot boxes will have only themselves to thank when their Civic Government earns more and more fully the derision of Manchester and Glasgow, and nearly every other great British Municipality." On the other hand, the *Express* congratulates the citizens of the Metropolis upon having secured another turn of "sane government for three years." And this is backed up by the jubilations of the *Daily Telegraph*, which tells us that "London has been saved," and that, "in spite of the greatest misrepresentation, of the most discreditable tactics resorted to by the Socialist-Radical coalition, the electors recorded a vote of confidence in the real Party of Progress." Then all the Progressive journals extenuate their defeat by charging the Reformers with deliberately choosing Thursday instead of Saturday as the polling day—to which the Reformers reply with a list of statistics showing that Saturday polls have invariably been lower than those taken on any other day.

Verily, verily, the correct significance of the letters L.C.C. must be Liberal—Conservative—Cant!

## PILLING THE POPULACE.

### DE. WITT'S EMPLOYEES HAVE A BIG DOSE TO SWALLOW.

Stimulated by a recent reference in these columns to the firm of E. C. De Witt and Co., of 44 and 45, Rathbone Place, W., a correspondent has sent us copies of that concern's rules and regulations for its sample-distributing staff. The firm appear to be scattering broadcast their seed, in the shape of some kidney pills, in the hope that the harvest will be a golden one. Men are engaged on this work in batches, four distributors under the charge of a foreman. Although in close and prolonged contact, however, the superior officer must imitate Lord Dundreary in loathing "beastly familiarity," for one of the strict prohibitions in his agreement with his employers is "eating, drinking, smoking or living with an employee of another grade, at any time, or conversing with an employee of another grade when off duty." Should he, notwithstanding, be guilty of this misconduct—of which the firm is to be the sole judge—his £10 deposit may be forfeited, as well as 2s. a week deferred pay which has been accumulating in their hands. The foreman is, however, graciously permitted to acknowledge the respectful salutations of an underling when off duty, though the language used is strictly prescribed—"The man must recognise him by saying simply, 'Good-morning, sir,' or 'Good-evening, sir,' as the case may be—no other conversation is allowed." Half-a-dozen long rules stipulate how the pills are to be taken by the householder at the hands of the distributor: "Doors are to be knocked at and one sample *only* handed in to each house and that to a *grown-up person* (a grown-up person is one at least twenty years of age) with these words, 'Free sample of De Witt's Kidney Pills, all chemists sell them, kindly read booklet inside.' These are as few words as possible and must be spoken pleasantly to every person receiving a sample." De Witt's seemingly fancy themselves to be very generous, for another rule runs: "Any policeman, soldier, sailor, postman, or any respectable adult person passing will positively be courteously handed a sample by the foreman." The distributing man has to get along with but thirty of these minatory instructions, although his superior has half-a-dozen more, among them being: "The firm will not pay for any tips given if the work could be done by the crew, but if occasion should arise that a tip has to be given, it must on no consideration exceed 3d.; and it must not be shown two tips at 3d. each, for not more than one tip is allowed to be given in a day."

Both classes of servants are, however, doubtless sustained in their labour of love by the friendly assurance that "supplementary instructions and rules will be issued from time to time."

## BOTHER AT BOXTED.

### A HEAVENLY KINGDOM *VERSUS* MUNDANE PLOTS.

Some time ago we advised the Salvation Army to stop their fooling on their small-holding farm at Boxted, and hand it over to persons who were competent to manage it. At the time we offered this advice the tenants were in open revolt and evictions were taking place daily. Instead of falling in with our suggestion, the Army got rid of those they imagined to be the ringleaders of discontent, and then started praying for the remainder. No doubt the first of the Army's methods had a marked effect for a time, but what General Bramwell Booth does not, apparently, realise, is that good manure and spade work will do more in a few months in the way of raising turnips than prayers and psalm-singing.

When our representative visited Boxted a few days ago, he ascertained that not one of the settlers had obtained a lease of a small piece of earth. And, though they asserted that they had found the Promised Land,, it somehow stuck in their gizzards that they had no mundane freehold property, and were without a readily accessible market for their crops. Their wants are not likely to be supplied at Boxted—at any rate, so long as the estate is under the control of the Salvation Army.

## FIFTY SHILLINGS FOR A RUINED LIFE.

### HOW ACCIDENT INSURANCE MEN EARN THEIR PAY.

Probably no recent legislation has done less to justify the high hopes of its promoters than the Workmen's Compensation Act. The system, now almost universal, by which employers commute their liability for a periodical payment to an insurance corporation, too often works grave detriment to those whom Parliament intended to protect. Rather than face the prospect of costly litigation with wealthy companies, injured persons are frequently bullied or cajoled into accepting sums which are hopelessly inadequate as compensation for the damage they have sustained. A particularly harrowing case of this kind has recently come under our notice. A girl was employed as a waitress in the house of a well-known K.C. While she was working in the kitchen, part of the flooring gave way and she fell through, her leg being badly injured and her nervous system receiving a severe shock. The girl informed her employer of the extent and nature of her injuries and was, of course, referred to an insurance company. An official of the company called upon her in due course and offered her the paltry solatium of £2 10s., which he strongly urged her to accept, remarking that if she "went to law," she would get only two months' wages, which was, of course, a deliberate and wicked lie. The poor girl appears to have been badly advised and ultimately accepted the wretched sum offered "rather than have any more bother."

After a time she discovered that her injuries were more serious than she had supposed, and she has now developed epileptic fits, which her medical attendant declares to be a direct outcome of the shock of the accident. She has been rendered totally unfit for domestic service and is on the verge of destitution.

Apart from the physical results of the mishap, the girl's unhappy condition is due, first, to the trickery of the insurance company, and, secondly, to the callous indifference of her actual employer, who is mean enough to profit by the company's fraud. We are endeavouring to trace the agent whose lying statement induced the girl to accept fifty shillings as compensation for a ruined life.

## TOUTS AND TRICKSTERS.

### THE GREAT CENTRAL SUPPLY SWINDLE AGAIN.

As recently as January 25th last we had occasion to refer to the disreputable methods of a firm of backdoor touts masquerading as the Great Central Supply Company, of 7, Denman Street, London Bridge. Another bad case has been brought to our notice. One of our lady readers at Lee was induced to give the firm an order for a "gold" watch, priced at £3 12s. When the watch arrived she was far from satisfied with it, and was wise enough to take it to a respectable jeweller for examination before parting with her money. The jeweller valued the timepiece at £1 4s., exactly one-third of the price demanded by the Company, and our correspondent promptly returned it, with an intimation that she did not intend to complete the purchase. In reply she was informed that it was too late for her to withdraw from the contract *she had signed*, although in fact she had never signed any paper at all, and has since refused to do so. Now at last these rascals have sent a letter in which they intimate that they *will allow her to return the watch on payment of seven-and-sixpence*. In other words, they are to be permitted to palm off their worthless trash on unwary purchasers and then to charge a fee of seven-and-sixpence for receiving the rubbish back! Needless to say, our correspondent has refused to make any such payment, and there for the moment the matter stands. It is almost incredible that a firm with the unenviable notoriety of the Great Central Supply Company should still find victims. We have again and again exposed their methods, and called attention to the underhand practices by which they extort money from inexperienced people, who will frequently pay from fear of legal proceedings. If there are any such among our readers, they may rest assured that this firm will never show their noses in a Court of Law.

**Your Last Chance to Win £6 or £3 a Week for Life and £500. Final Coupon this Week.**

# THE "JOHN BULL" DERBY SWEEP.

## HOW THE STUPIDITY OF THE ENGLISH LAW DRIVES MONEY AND BUSINESS ABROAD.

By the Editor.

From the enormous amount of correspondence which reaches me daily, I gather that the John Bull Derby "Sweep" is the subject of much public interest, and that its success is likely to eclipse anything of its kind yet attempted, short of the great Calcutta sweep—the tickets for which are now confined to members of the Calcutta Club. But I shall not be in the least surprised if, in time, the John Bull Derby Sweep leaves even *that* in the shade. The fact is, that in connection with its "Bullets" and Football Competitions, John Bull has earned such a reputation for fair and straight dealing that any sporting enterprise bearing the hall-mark of its name is now assured of immediate success.

My present object is to indicate the reasons which, after much consideration, led me to associate myself with this project. I venture to premise that my methods are sufficiently well known by this time to acquit me of any suspicion of cant when I say that, quite apart from the purely commercial aspect of the matter, my main concern has been the protection of John Bull readers against the snares and pitfalls which beset them, especially at this time of year, from the machinations of the huge army of adventurers which the present absurd state of our law annually brings into existence. With the Business aspect of the matter I will deal later.

### The Law's Stupidity.

Let me first look at the matter from the public point of view. Under the present ridiculous state of our law, no public sweepstake may be established here, and consequently all such enterprises are worked from abroad—principally, at the moment, from Switzerland—and foreign countries reap the benefit of the annual expenditure of hundreds of thousands of pounds in postages, and a like amount in printing and other work; whilst large staffs are locally employed, the members of which would otherwise be spending their money at home. That, however, is but the smallest evil. Released from the supervision of our own authorities, a horde of adventurers every year lay themselves out to exploit the British public—from the safe vantage ground of a foreign soil. The result is that at this season of the year every post brings circulars relating to "Lincolnshire," "Grand National" and other sweeps—five out of six of which are unadulterated swindles. Year after year the same men, under ever-varying aliases, organise these ramps—either disappearing as soon as they have raked in the money for the tickets, or publishing the alleged results of bogus draws—many of the names of "winners" being purely fictitious.

### My Investigation.

It was in these circumstances that I was approached last year by certain individuals and firms who do conduct their businesses honestly, with a view to undertaking a thorough investigation into the whole subject of these Continental sweepstakes. In the first instance, I sent my Special Commissioner out to Lucerne, Geneva, and other centres of activity, with instructions to make full inquiry into the whole subject. At a later stage, armed with his reports, I paid a personal visit, interviewing all the principal firms and a large number of officials; and the conclusion I came to was that there were not more than half a dozen sweepstakes being honestly run. And even in these cases the guaranteed prizes were extremely small, or the system of deducting an agreed percentage from the total subscriptions was extremely unsatisfactory. In the end, I came to the conclusion that if our Government *will* be so stupid as to throw away deliberately the revenue obtainable from the gratification of the natural instinct for a "flutter"—especially on such an event as the world-renowned "Derby"—the only way to protect the sporting public was for some great organisation, beyond suspicion, and possessing its confidence, to take the matter in hand. But then arose a whole host of difficulties. Clearly, the proprietary of this journal could not, in its corporate capacity, undertake the responsibility—for, to make the project worthy of general support, it was imperative that a heavy financial risk should be incurred. Fortunately, however—as was explained in our last issue—a thoroughly sound scheme, backed up by adequate financial assurances, has now been formulated.

### A Model Sweep.

And now the public has, at last, the chance of participating in a model Derby sweep, with tickets at the popular price of 2s. 6d. each, and prizes ranging from £5,000 for the winning horse, £1,000 for the second, £500 for the third, £250 for the fourth, down to a large number of Consolation awards, and last, but certainly not least, £1,000 for English Charities—which I am to have the privilege of selecting. Can it be believed that any sane Government would deliberately set its face against such a scheme? Well may we say, "Oh, for a Business Government!" As it is, everything has to be done from abroad, and consequently the undertaking has been located at Geneva, with the result that the Swiss Government will reap a rich harvest, which would otherwise have been expended amongst our own people. And now for the commercial aspect of the matter.

### The Commercial Aspect.

As already stated, the Sweep starts with a Guaranteed Prize Fund of £10,000—and I shall see every penny of the sum lodged in the bank. I say "starts with," because there is every possibility that the amount may be considerably increased. Well, that is a big liability for anyone to undertake, but it does not represent much more than half of the total sum involved. Printing, postage, staff, etc., will absorb several thousands more—so that it becomes a simple matter of business calculation whether the project is likely to be either self-supporting or profitable. My own view is that—for the first year, at any rate—the promoters must not expect more than their outlay back—it takes a lot of half-crowns to make up £20,000! But I am satisfied that in time the "John Bull Derby Sweep" will become something of a national institution. Indeed, I shall be surprised if next year the Prize List is not doubled—but we must "wait and see"! Meanwhile, I can understand the enthusiasm with which the scheme has been received. With the certainty that everything in connection with it will be conducted on absolutely straight lines, it will be entirely the fault of the public if they are ensnared into any of the traps which are now being set for them. Some of the circulars before me speak of £100,000, and others of £250,000 in Prizes, but a careful study of their wording will show that not a single penny is *guaranteed*. They might as well speak of a million. Here, however, we have a certain £10,000—and a certain £1,000 for English charities. And there I must for the moment leave the matter. I can enter into no correspondence in respect of it, nor can I be the medium of receiving and transmitting any money for tickets. Everything must be addressed to the organiser—Mr. Patrick O'Brien, Geneva, Switzerland.

## THE OLD FIRM.

### SOME PRACTISED HANDS AT DEPOSIT-SNATCHING.

About a year ago we issued a warning against the British Supply Stores, of 21, Cannon Street, Manchester, but they are still at their old game—for they recently inserted a mug-catching advertisement, this time offering, instead of £1 parcels of clothing, &c., "a marvellous bargain", in watches. The price asked was £1 for what was stated to be "a 50s. English, hall-marked, silver lever." The usual flapdoodle was incorporated in the announcement, such as that "to enable everyone to come into possession of these splendid watches, we will accept payment on the instalment system of 2s. per month and 2s. deposit with order, relying upon the public to appreciate this stupendous bargain and recommend us to their relatives and friends"—the latter portion of the sentence clearly implying that the article was to be sent on the payment of the deposit, while the impression thus created was deliberately confirmed by the additional words: "A handsome present is sent in addition if full cash is remitted." As the advertisement stated "cash returned in full if not as represented," the announcement was naturally read as indicating an offer of the articles on approval to anyone paying the florin—a fair proposition, as it is hardly likely that anyone would buy a watch outright without seeing it. Several correspondents, however, are now protesting to us that they have been grossly deceived—for, instead of getting the watch, all they have obtained for their deposit is an instalment card and the statement that if they require the watch at once they will have to pay down the balance of 18s. Insistence upon the return of the money obtained by these false pretences merely elicits an offer to supply shoddy "jewellery" to the alleged value—an offer which is not acceptable, especially as a preliminary to its fulfilment is the return of the payment card, the holder of which would thereby part with all evidence of his claim and place himself entirely in the hands of a concern whose shabby methods we have described. To have been a year at one address and under one name is surely a record for practitioners of this game; after a few months they usually fly to fresh fields and pastures new, in search of more "green goods"—or, at any rate, change their name. In either event, the persons who have trusted them with money on account of "bargains" lose all they have paid. The British Supply Stores' fixity of tenure shows how confident they are of police inaction, despite the magnitude of the scandal which permits such methods of "business."

## "FITS AND TRYING ON."

### WHO IS THE PHILANTHROPIC TOUT FOR KORONIUM BROMIDE?

We have received several interesting letters in regard to our comments upon the peculiar methods by which "D. Dunn"—purporting to be a clergyman—of Grasmere House, Winsford, Cheshire, was advising persons afflicted with fits to procure from Whitby and Co., of Winsford, a mysterious substance termed Koronium Bromide, priced as 16s. a pound, the assurance being held out that "it will most certainly cure the worst case of epilepsy." One suggested elucidation of the mystery of the identity of Mr. Dunn is that a person of that surname lives at the address given, but he is said to be a clerk instead of a cleric, and to be related to one of the Whitbys by marriage. All our informants, however, agree that Whitby and Co. occupy an ordinary retail chemist's shop. It seems a very interesting little problem, and we shall be glad to hear from anybody "in the know." Meantime, we strongly advise those subject to fits to have nothing to do with the wonderful powder which it is necessary to push by such means.

## "JOHN BULL'S BOYS."

We have pleasure in acknowledging the following further amounts received on behalf of the fund for the provision of a souvenir, in the shape of models of the *Terra Nova*, for the sons of Captain Scott and Petty Officer Evans:—

"Lady Reader," 2s.; "Anonymous," 1s.; Mrs. L., 1s. R. M. R., 1s.; "Kerry," 5s.; J. A. M., 1s. 6d.; "A Friend," 2s.; "Nan," 4s.

## TOUGH TACK FOR TOMMY'S TUMMY.

### ANOTHER WAR OFFICE DODGE.

Another brazen attempt is to be made to reduce the Army Estimates at the expense of the rank and file, for the War Office have issued the following notice to meat contractors:—

> I am directed to acquaint you that it is desired to make the following changes from April 1st to May 31st next in the Army meat contracts now running in the United Kingdom, viz.:—
>
> In lieu of the weekly issue of
> 4 days fresh beef.
> 2 days frozen beef.
> 1 day frozen mutton,
>
> To substitute
> 3 days fresh beef.
> 4 days frozen beef.
>
> And I am to enquire whether you would agree to the proposed modifications in respect of your contract. Also in view of the present enhanced market price of frozen mutton, what allowance you would be prepared to make in the price of frozen beef from April 1st next?
>
> The favour of your reply is requested.

Now, there is more in this than at first meets the eye. Before the notice was sent out to the contractors a committee met in Whitehall, and on this body sat a gentleman who is a director on the board of a wholesale meat company! The alteration means that the cheeseparing humbugs are depriving the soldier of a change of diet by excluding mutton, and at the same time taking away one day's issue of fresh beef, and substituting frozen. We ask, who is out on the make this time? The soldier serving under military law cannot protest, so we do it for him. We hear that one of the committeemen urged that he could save the country £60,000 a year by cutting out the foreribs, rumps and loins of each side of beef before the meat was served to the troops, and selling these primer parts on the London market. It seems to us that in this move there is a proneness to play into the hands of the American Meat Trusts at the expense of our farmers and landowners. The country is crying out about the treatment of the Territorials; should the sons of those who live on the soil enlist in that body and be forced to eat frozen beef when they go into training? The farmers and landowners of Great Britain have—if we may at last believe the cry of "Wolf!"—been doing very badly of late, and now that the demand in their own country prevents the Yankees shipping live cattle over here, and the British farmer, therefore, has a chance to make up a little of his past losses, the Government, seemingly, tries to knock them on the head by using frozen meat and helping the Beef Trust. We protest.

## THE RE-OPENING.

Back with a buzz come the bumble-bees,
Back to the same old hive;
Fussing to let you know they are
Alive, alive, alive!

Some of them come in their motor-cars,
Some of the others walk,
Bursting to open their mouths again,
To talk, and talk, and talk!

Each one obeying his leader's nod,
True to the whip's blunt note;
Never to think, but blindly just
To vote, and vote, and vote!

Some are prepared to stand on their legs
In moments big with fate,
And fritter the time away while they
Will prate, and prate, and prate!

Not to make honey the bees return,
Only to buzz and hum;
For the end of all the party game
Is fee-fi-fo and fum!

RICARDO.

**"Bullets" the Simplest and Best Judged Competition.**

## HOBSON'S CHOICE.

### WHAT *IS* THE SOUTH LONDON CHARITY CONCERTS ASSOCIATION?

Can any reader enlighten us regarding the South London Charity Concerts Association, the Hon. Secretary of which is Mr. A. W. Hobson, of 2, Kempshead Road, Camberwell, a printer in a very small way, who does all the printing for that body, whatever it may be? We ask because Mr. Hobson has chosen to refuse to comply with a perfectly reasonable request for copies of the balance sheets of the various entertainments held under the auspices of that mysterious concern, together with a card of its rules, unless the names and addresses of the persons who communicated with us are given to him, coupled with a promise that we will purchase 10s. worth of tickets for a concert held at Cambridge House Hall, Addington Square, Camberwell Road, on March 8th, "proceeds in aid of the Association's working expenses fund." Our natural answer to this extraordinary attitude was to call his attention to the fact that the conduct in their trust of persons who appeal for support in aid of charities is a matter of public interest, and that it is the duty of newspapers to criticise them when occasion calls for it. We also pointed out that no *bona-fide* charity would refuse to supply the Press with such reasonable information; but though this communication was sent by registered post to Mr. Hobson on February 28th, up to the time of going to press he has not answered it. It is noteworthy that the bills announcing the latest entertainment do not bear the name of any Treasurer. *Cui bono?*

## AN ACT OF GRACE.

### A MUSCULAR CHRISTIAN GETS INTO TROUBLE.

In the village of Waddington, near Clitheroe, the parishioners have a new type of muscular Christian in the Curate, the Rev. Hubert Allen Grace, also Chaplain of the local almshouses. Not to put too fine a point on it, Mr. Grace is a whacker. Because a rather lively ten-year-old of the parish acted in what he regarded as a "hooligan manner," our reverend friend gave him the alternative of appearing before the magistrates or being thrashed. Evidently more afraid of the cadi than the Curate, the lad consented to the thrashing, whereupon the Curate told him to strip naked, and then proceeded to give him ten strokes with a stick. In these circumstances it is not surprising that the Curate has been fined 10s. and costs. Our reverend friend appears to have a great liking for whacking boys, for it came out in evidence that "for previous misbehaviour defendant had given a boy named Smith twelve strokes, but let off the complainant on his promising not to go out at night." Presumably he is under the impression that his stick is an outward and spiritual Grace, but if he does not keep it to himself he will probably discover that it will not save him from the wrath to come.

## WELL, WELL!

### HOW "CIVIL ENGINEERING" DID NOT STRIKE OIL.

On January 22nd the Manager of a paper called *Civil Engineering*, whose offices are at 185, Fleet Street, wrote to two different Oil Companies, stating that he had noticed their advertisements in other papers, and asking them if they would be willing to open a "contra account" with his publication, as it had orders to place. The letters were identical, except that the orders were stated in one case to be for £48 and in the other £120. One of the recipients called at Fleet Street and asked for further particulars, to be told he must give the order for the advertisements first! Such methods of business are, in our opinion, undignified and open to misconstruction, and we trust that, having now had their attention directed to the matter, those who control the paper will see the wisdom of discontinuing them.

## LEGALISED PILFERING.

### INSURANCE COMMISSIONERS IMITATE THE DUTCH.

An Enfield correspondent complains of the way in which he has been treated by the Insurance Commissioners, and it certainly appears that he has a tangible grievance. He was out of employment on July 15th last, when the Act came into operation, and for four weeks after. As soon as he got work he paid up the four weeks' arrears of contributions and continued to pay until January of this year. By January 13th he had thus made twenty-six weekly contributions, and naturally concluded that he was entitled to receive benefits under the Act. On January 14th his wife was confined. He then made application for maternity benefit on her behalf, and received the following intimation from an officer of the Insurance Commission:—

> I am directed to state that if you did not enter into Insurance until four weeks after July 15th, 1912, Maternity Benefit is not payable in respect of your wife's confinement on January 14th, 1913, inasmuch as Maternity Benefit is not payable until twenty-six weeks have elapsed from the date of such entry. It is not open to an insured person to pay contributions for the period elapsing between July 15th, 1912, and the date of entry into Insurance."

The writer further suggested that our correspondent should communicate with his Approved Society upon the matter.

It is interesting to note that although it was not "open" to the contributor to pay up arrears, it was apparently "open" to the Commissioners to receive them, and they were duly credited to the contributor in his insurance book, thus leading him to suppose that all was in order. It must have been perfectly obvious to any intelligent person that the contributor was paying up his arrears under the impression that he would thereby place himself on the same footing as persons entering into insurance on July 15th. If, as now appears, such a payment was inadmissible, it should never have been entered in the insurance book. Our correspondent should have been put right in the matter and his contributions refunded. This case is doubtless one of many. Such sharp practice is calculated to give the "rare and refreshing fruit" of the Act a bitter taste in the mouths of the compulsorily insured, however much it may tend to swell the accumulated funds. We advise the Commissioners to avoid the fault of the Dutch—"Giving too little and taking too much."

## "WOOLWORTH'S, OF WOOLWICH."

### THE "BAZAAR" PEOPLE GET WHAT THEY WERE ASKING FOR.

As was indicated in the article in our issue of March 1st on the amateur detective methods of the employees of Messrs. F. W. Woolworth and Co., proprietors of "bazaars" in Woolwich and many other places, the firm have been "riding for a fall." On the very day of publication, a jury at the Glamorgan Assizes gave a man named D. J. Collins, who had been arrested in circumstances which bore a striking similarity to the case with which we dealt, £50 damages for malicious prosecution and false imprisonment. Perhaps this lesson, combined with the good advice which we gave them, may restrain the ardour of the band of "jumpers" which the firm apparently engages. There is, unfortunately, a natural tendency on the part of men employed as amateur policemen to justify the payment of their salaries by distorting perfectly innocent actions on the part of those they watch.

## A PARTY HACK'S EPITAPH.

Here lies a man who in life's race
  Was winning in his little heat,
But Death has called on him to STAND;
  And so, alas! he's lost his SEAT.

No more he'll heed the Whip's commands
  Or vote against his Party's foes.
We hope he's with the saints on AYE;
  But still one never NOES.

**£400 for Two or Three Words—Awarded every week—See "Bullets," Page 398.**

# "JOHN BULL-DOG" WEEKLY CINEMA.

## S BY "THE BOW-WOW."

1.

No more may eager listeners crowd
To hear Squire Bancroft read aloud.
Charles Dickens's immortal tale—
*Unless persuasion should prevail.*

2.

The fiftieth anniversary
Of her glad coming o'er the sea
Finds Alexandra, gentle, kind,
Still in the people's heart enshrined.

3.

Guard Richardson, 'tmay be presumed,
His uniform has re-assumed;
If not, may so so any day—
That's as it should be.—Right away!

4.

While Hazelden the "system" slogs
For treating jurymen like dogs,
Judge Darling quizzes Hazelden
For making dogs of jurymen.

5.

King Lud, thought sleeping, opes his eyes
And gives Progressives a surprise;
Their "progress" to accelerate
He kicks them from Spring Gardens' gate.

6.

King George, at Asquith's stern behest,
Gives tired M.P.'s but little rest;
No sooner is one Session done
Than he commands another one.

## THE MAN AND HIS CREED.

### X.—REGINALD McKENNA.

I BELIEVE in the Disestablishment of the Church in Wales, because it is necessary to do so to keep in with the Welsh M.P.'s.

I BELIEVE in refusing compensation to the Welsh curates who will lose their jobs under Disestablishment, because that is essential to keeping in with the Welsh M.P.'s.

I BELIEVE in shutting my ears to the cries of the said curates, otherwise I could not keep in with the Welsh M.P's.

I BELIEVE in refusing to allow the Disestablished Church to retain its glebe lands, because that is one of the conditions for keeping in with the Welsh M.P.'s.

I BELIEVE in abusing the King's prerogative of mercy in the case of militant suffragettes.

I BELIEVE in over-riding the decisions of judges and magistrates whenever they have the audacity to inflict an adequate sentence on a convicted militant suffragette.

I BELIEVE in allowing the Law to be made a mock of in the case of militant suffragettes.

I BELIEVE that, what with my strenuous endeavours to keep in with the Welsh M.P.'s, and my determination to save criminal suffragettes from the inconvenience of imprisonment, I am rapidly qualifying myself for canonisation as a saint, and will shortly deserve a stained-glass window all to myself in Westminster Abbey.

## POEMS UNPLEASANT—A REPLY.

*(A new suffragette organisation—to be known as the "Qui Vive"—whose members are pledged to abstain from militant action—has just been formed.*—DAILY PAPER.)

It's up to us, by peaceful ways
To show we can command the vote.
With diligence we spend our days
'Mongst ancient speeches we shall quote
In every market place,—"Qui Vive!"
Can men such lies as these believe?

It's up to us to make M.P.'s
Regret they were not born deaf-mutes;
On to each silly word we'll freeze,
And constantly remind the brutes.
"Qui Vive!" In ninety-eight you spoke
Quite otherwise!—Was that a joke?

For unity our corps will stand—
(And stand maybe despite police!)
That we may, in this gander's land,
Obtain same sauces for the geese.
And as each hypocrite appears,
"Qui Vive!" To pump we nail his ears!

R. C. B.

**There is only just time to Win £6 or £3 a Week for Life and £500. Final Coupon.**

## THE POOR AND THE POOR RATE.

### HOW THE CRIME OF POVERTY IS PUNISHED.

A lady of trustworthy character and high repute, Miss Ethel Schneidermann is a Life-Governor of the London Hospital, a position which she earned by her indefatigable and successful efforts to raise funds for that institution.

About three years ago, Miss Schneidermann, who was then a prosperous music-teacher and pianoforte agent, met with a serious accident at Eastbourne, since when she has been in very ill-health and quite unfit to follow any regular employment.

One night while Miss Schneidermann was lying seriously ill in her rooms—she had let the house which she formerly occupied—a police officer appeared to demand the payment of a poor rate amounting to £3 4s. 8d. Miss Schneidermann declares that she had received no previous intimation that this sum was owing, and had therefore had no opportunity of explaining her sad position to the authorities. Despite this the police officer took from her all the money she had in the world and left her utterly destitute, to live or die as best she might.

A few weeks later a further instalment of the poor rate was demanded. A letter to the magistrate evoked no response, and again a police officer came upon the scene—with the result that, ill as she was, Miss Schneidermann was dragged to the police court, and, after hours of waiting, committed to prison for non-payment of the rate, the Court refusing to hear her reasons for non-payment.

Although Miss Schneidermann was all this time seriously and obviously ill, she was treated with callous brutality by the police and prison officials. Immediately on her arrival at Holloway she was stripped in a draughty room and plunged into water which had been used by other prisoners. The accommodation provided for her was just that of any common felon. On her first day in prison she had an attack of hæmorrhage of the lungs. As she lay on her plank bed, racked with pain, she was rudely disturbed by a wardress, who told her that she "must not lie abed without doctor's orders." After seven days of this abominable treatment she was released, more dead than alive, and went straight to University Hospital.

It was not very long, however, before another rate summons appeared, and again the unfortunate woman was haled before the Arbour Square Court. The magistrate, his attitude unchanged, threatened to commit her again to Holloway unless the money was quickly paid. A day or two later police officers raided her rooms and she was again lodged in Holloway gaol with every circumstance of cruelty and indignity. The poor woman's sufferings during this second term of incarceration were, if anything, more horrible than before. She was ultimately discharged from prison a hopeless physical and nervous wreck, and is now a patient of the West End Hospital for Nervous Diseases.

We have set out the facts as conveyed to us by Miss Schneidermann. We have no reason to disbelieve her story, and her veracity and respectability are vouched for by her record and the testimony of many who know her. It is difficult to believe that these atrocities have been perpetrated in our own country. We have done our duty in giving publicity to the facts of the case. We call upon Mr. McKenna to do his.

### OUR COLLECTING BOXES.

London.—Mr. A. Pink, "The Bell," 136, High Street, Shoreditch, 1s. 6d.; Mr. V. Wrigglesworth, "Aberfeldy," Poplar, 1s. 10d.; Mr. H. Lee, "Copenhagen," 183, Salmon Lane, Limehouse, 1s. 4d.; "Sympathiser," 5s. 1d.; Mr. A. H. Standbrook, "Old Clay Hall," Old Ford Road, 1s. 3d.; Mr. E. Underwood, "Bromley Arms," Fairfield Road, Bow, 1s. 2d.; Mr. W. E. Halpike, "The Old Globe," 191, Mile End Road, 2s. 4d.; Mr. B. Barney, 154, Kentish Town Road, 2s.; Messrs. Beauner and Co., 5, Southampton Row, 1s. 5d.; Mr. E. Pulman, 8, Burdett Road, Bow, 1s.

Edinburgh.—Mr. W. Anderson, 3-5, W. Richmond Street, 2s. 3½d.

Brighton.—Mr. A. E. Williams, 75, Islingwood Road, 6d.

Glasgow.—Mr. J. Cohen, 39a, South Portland Street, 8d.

Liverpool.—Mr. F. Delderfield, "Press Guards' Hotel," 13, Soho Street, 7s. 2d.; Mr. W. McTaggart, "Park Palace Hotel," Mill Street, 3s.; Mr. G. Mackenzie, "Channel Fleet Hotel," 275, Grafton Street, 2s. 1d.; Mr. J. Tuohy, 24, Duncan Street, 1½d.

Manchester.—Mr. G. F. Fannon, "Falstaffe Hotel," Market Place, 1s.; Mr. W. J. Jones, "Bay Horse Hotel," Corporation Street, 1s. 6d.

Abercarn.—Mr. R. W. White, 49 and 50, High Street, 1s. 0½d.

Rhondda.—Mr. F. Shortman, 67, Gelligaled Road, Ystrad, 3s. 6d.

Total £2 1s. 9½d., of which we have allocated 10s. to CCXIX., 10s. to CCXXI., and £1 1s. 9½d. to CCXXXVI.

## HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CCXXXVII.

*[In this column every week we publish particulars of some human derelict whose case, after full investigation, we are able to recommend to the charity of our readers. We are happy to say that in this way we have already been the means of bringing comfort into many a wretched home. All amounts subscribed are duly acknowledged, and no deduction of any kind is made by us.]*

### A POVERTY PROBLEM.

Below we print a letter from a family drudge. Pleading, inspired by such faith, we cannot ignore, although how the feat she begs of us is to be accomplished we are at a loss to understand:—

> I have read of your kindness to people in need in your "Human Document" columns, and I should be grateful indeed if you could help my mother. I am 18, the eldest of five now living, but I cannot work as my mother is a helpless invalid and cannot even wash or dress herself. For the sake of the baby, father was driven to stealing a purse with 5s. 4d. in it, and was caught. He had had no work for months. We shall be put in the street if we cannot get the rent before next Monday, and that we cannot get. You would perhaps save my mother's life if you could help us, for I know she cannot stand the shock of being turned out into the street, so I am going to rely on John Bull doing his best for us.

In response to this pitiful letter we lost no time in making full investigations. The "home" of the family of seven consists of two rooms and a kitchen, the rent of which is 5s. a week. They are many weeks in arrear, but a friend has promised to clear this amount off. The rooms are clean but devoid of furniture. The father, now undergoing a term of a month's imprisonment for theft, is a builder's labourer. It is his second conviction, and his daughter steadily affirms that the one and only reason her father stole was in order to buy food for his children, of whom there are four, in addition to herself. Their ages and sexes are as follows:—Two boys, 9 and 11 years; a girl, 13 years; and a baby, 12 months. The poor mother is a cripple, doubled up with rheumatism, and unable to do anything for herself. The family bear a very good name, but the father is blamed for not getting work and supporting his children.

Now here is a problem. What can be done with innocent sufferers of this description? The first course that presents itself to us is that the poor woman should become an inmate of the infirmary and the four children go into the workhouse. In this way the girl of 18 could go out to service and support herself. But (and this is the only reason we issue this appeal) the girl loves her mother, her little brothers and sisters—and, indeed, her father—and she pleads that we will ask our readers to render some temporary assistance until her father returns to them and gets work. With tears rolling down her cheeks she sobbed, "It would break my heart to part from my mother." There it is. It may be folly on our part to appeal for such a family, as the result may be merely to prolong the agony. On the other hand, the man may, on his release, be able to run straight.

We have received the following, which we have forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:

CCXXVII.—"Mary Deborah," 5s.

CCXXVIII.—"Mary Deborah," 5s.; A. B. C., 2s. 6d.

CCXXIX.—"Mary Deborah," 5s.

CCXXX.—"Mary Deborah," 5s.

CCXXXI.—"Mary Deborah," 5s.; A. B. C., 2s. 6d.

CCXXXII.—"Mary Deborah," 5s.

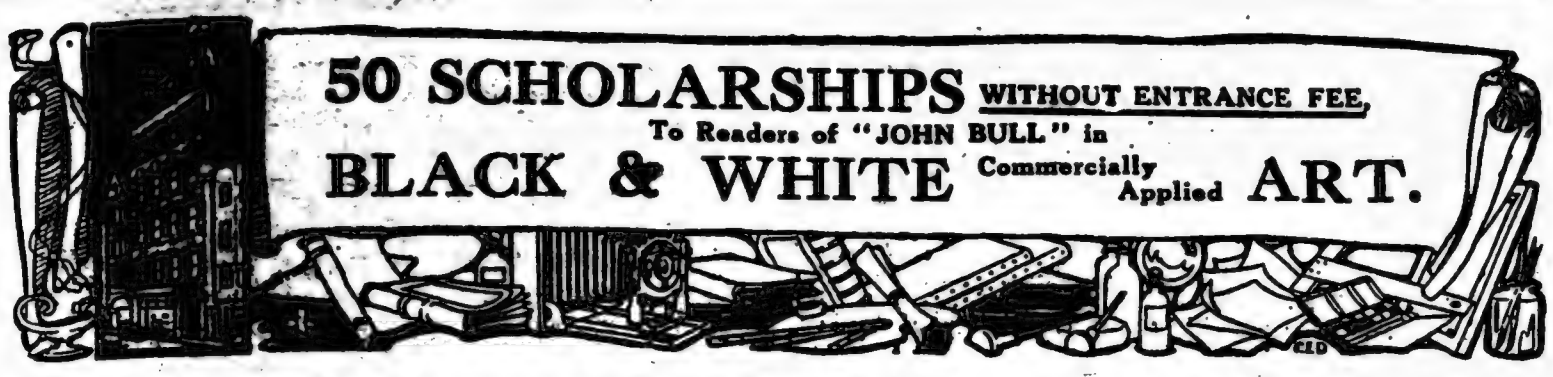
CCXXXIII.—"Mary Deborah," 5s.; "Don," 6d.

CCXXXIV.—"Mary Deborah," 5s.; J. T. B., 2s.; D. E. C., 2s. 6d.; A. P., parcel.

CCXXXV.—"Sherwood Forester," 2s.; K. R., 2s. 6d.; A. A. 5s.; "Pat B.," 6d.; "Nancie," 2s.; "Reader from First Number," 2s. 6d.; "Loser," 6d.; F. H., 1s.; M. W. E., 2s.; "Mac," 2s. 6d.; J. H. L., 1s. 6d.; C. T., 3s. 6d.; "Mary Deborah," 5s.; J. H. N., 2s. 3d.; F. and G. A., 2s.; "Do Unto Others," 2s.; D. O. U. T., 2s. 6d.; "Stanley," £1; "Bob," 1s. 3d.

CCXXXVI.—"Ivy Mary," 1s.; S. C. and T., 3s.; "A Reader," 2s.; "Sympathiser Grange," 1s.; "Another Devon Man," 1s.; "Elstow," 1s.; "Bob," 1s. 3d.; J. L., 1s.; "2071," 1s.; H. J. E., 21s.; "Jay Gee," 2s. 6d.

**By the way, don't forget "Mary Bull." A Splendid Number this week. On Sale Fridays.**




WELL-KNOWN artists in all parts of the world have been helped to do saleable work—and sell it! Hundreds of young men and women have been enabled to enter the profession by a quick and easy route, personally conducted *by post*, by one of London's most successful designers of Pictorial Publicity, an English artist of international repute who has taught more people to earn money by art than any other man. Formerly Art and Artists were in a bad way. Only the wealthy could buy pictures, and the poor painter had to sell his work or perish.

It was better to be a plumber than a painter, for plumbing was needful, while painting was a luxury dependent upon the prejudice and fancy of the wealthy.

To-day the artist can snap his fingers at the retired usurer or mill-owner, because there is a new and widening market for his work.

## DRAWING FOR PLEASURE AND PROFIT.

He may draw pictures for the people.

The Advertiser clamours for "the picture that tells the story," and the publisher *must* buy it.

Art in Advertising also offers a splendid field. Men like Walter Crane, R.W.S., Bernard Partridge, E. J. Sullivan, Hubert Herkomer, R.A., and Chas. E. Dawson design advertisements because they know that it is better for our walls and magazines to be covered with designs that are good in drawing and colour than with advertisements that are bald, crude, and brutally bad as they used to be.

When a firm spends thousands of pounds on an advertisement, it realises that any price paid for a design that makes the advertisement more effective is money well spent.

## THE MODERN ARTIST'S OPPORTUNITIES.

Commercial artists usually sell their work by post, thus saving time and the embarrassment of personal interviews and verbal bargaining.

By post, also, anyone with a taste for drawing can enjoy the advantages of a London training at home.

The Directors of the Practical Correspondence College—*the All-British Art School with the world-wide Reputation*—offer the full Course of Instruction in Black and White at half fees to the first 50 readers to pass a postal examination. The balance of fees is only payable WHEN THE STUDENT HAS EARNED TEN POUNDS as a result of his tuition. The Scholarships will be awarded to those who are most likely to be successful; our interests are mutual for we succeed or fail with the student.

If the Course fails to help the student to earn £10, then the student is under no further obligation to complete payment of fees.

*Courtesy of Miss Gertrude Robins.*

## "John Bull" says:

*"An Institution which has evidently come to stay. No student is accepted who does not give proof by specimen of work of his aptitude for the subject in which he or she seeks training. Anyone desirous of improving his position should write to the Secretary for particulars."*

## The COLLEGE STAKES 200 GUINEAS UPON the SUCCESS of the 50 SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS.

Most of our students are helped to *earn while they learn*, and easily dispose of their work at the completion of the course.

Any reader with a taste for drawing, common sense, and ambition stands a chance of launching, on unprecedented terms, right into the most interesting and lucrative of the artistic professions either as a profitable spare time pursuit or a regular occupation.

No preliminary training or expenses are necessary. Awards will be made in the order in which specimen sketches are received.

Send as soon as possible, not later than March 31st, for full particulars of the most successful Course of Home Study in Commercially Applied Art at the most favourable terms ever offered.

It costs nothing, and you risk nothing by entering for this unique scholarship.

The lessons, exclusive and confidential to each Scholarship Winner, are superbly illustrated. Exercises are set expounding the technique of drawing for reproduction. These exercises are sent by post to the Art Director, who criticises them; his long letters of personal advice and encouragement are alone worth more than the moderate fee for the course.

He gives "*reasons why*" for praise or blame—his Art Criticism in the foremost magazines of Great Britain and America have won for him a Reputation only equalled by the high regard shown on both sides of the Atlantic for his notable advertisement designs. His pen and pencil have lent Refinement and Distinction to the announcements of the leading advertisers, among them:
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## HEARD IN THE TRAIN.

### "BULLETS."

1ST GENT: It's quite the best competition I know, sir. Brainy without being too arduous. My wife's keen on it.

2ND GENT: Really! I usually fight shy of these things, but I must confess I made an attempt or two yesterday. One seems drawn into it, somehow. Everybody's doing it, you know. Ha, ha!

1ST GENT: Done anything good? It closes to-day, you know, so there's no harm in telling.

2ND GENT: Well, I rather fancy *one* I sent in.

1ST GENT: What was the Example?

2ND GENT: "Most Courageous." Did you do that one?

1ST GENT: Yes. What did *you* make of it?

2ND GENT: "Militant Suffragettes." Not bad, eh?

1ST GENT: Pooh! That doesn't stand an earthly. It's not the sort of thing they want, you know. It touches on a very controversial question. Besides, it's not true.

2ND GENT: I beg your pardon. It is because of the truth of it that I think it stands a very good chance of winning the first prize.

1ST GENT: How on earth anyone can call these militant creatures courageous passes my comprehension.

2ND GENT: That does not disprove their courage. It merely indicates the limits of your comprehension.

1ST GENT: That is a cleverer retort than I should have expected from a male suffragist.

2ND GENT: Is that a suggestion that *I* am a male suffragist?

1ST GENT: Certainly. You stand, or rather sit, self-confessed.

2ND GENT: I believe in justice to women.

1ST GENT: So do I; and if I had my way I'd see that these vote-hunting viragoes had it, sir. Yes, sir, hot and strong!

2ND GENT: But I gathered from one of your remarks that you are a married man.

1ST GENT: Yes, sir, and so I am. That is one reason why I am opposed to votes for women. I know something about 'em, sir!

2ND GENT: Well, I'm a bachelor; but that does not prevent my seeing that the women's claim to the franchise is no more than a demand for elementary justice.

1ST GENT: The fact of your being a bachelor is your only excuse, sir.

2ND GENT: Only excuse for what?

1ST GENT: For entertaining such a nonsensical notion, sir. In other respects I should judge you to be a moderately intelligent man.

2ND GENT: You have a very objectionable way of putting your points, if I may say so. Can't you argue without being offensive?

1ST GENT: Yes, sir, I can—as well as any man.

2ND GENT: Then why don't you?

1ST GENT: Not on this subject—oh, no!

2ND GENT: For what reason?

1ST GENT: For the reason that it is an offensive subject. When the militant maniacs recover their sanity and cease from making themselves offensive to the general public, then we can talk about women's franchise without offence.

2ND GENT: Queer logic!

1ST GENT: Sounder logic than destroying the flowers at Kew with the idea of getting the vote, sir.

2ND GENT: That was merely a sporadic outbreak——

1ST GENT: Or burning down the Tea Pavilion.

2ND GENT: That is not argument.

1ST GENT: I know it isn't. It's indignation.

2ND GENT: It's utter rot, if you will permit me to say so.

1ST GENT: I bow to you, sir. You are probably a judge of rot. Anyhow, you are doing rather a rotten thing now.

2ND GENT: What do you mean?

1ST GENT: Riding in a first-class carriage with a third-class ticket. I can see it sticking out of your pocket. Is this your station? I'd *make* it so, if I were you.

2ND GENT (*alighting*): Bah!

1ST GENT: Guard, look after that stray sheep.

GUARD (*grinning*): All right, sir. . . . Right, forward!

## DEVIL'S LUCK.

By Richard Morton.

### Scene the First.

The Duke of Eastminster was quite a young duke as dukes go—and some of them do not go any too well—that's where they are like cheap watches; and so he of course found his way to the Casino. If you are in Monte you cannot easily miss your way to the Casino.

Having more money than he knew what to do with, the duke was quite prepared to drop a little of it at the gambling table. Lots of people must find it a pleasurable excitement to lose money at Monte Carlo; it is about the only thing they do when they get there.

There is a fascination in throwing money away when you are otherwise utterly unable to spend it, having such a surplus quantity, so the duke took a front seat right in the eye of the croupier and put a little pile of notes in the square space that was nearest him. He did not fancy that square, not a bit, only it was adjacent, and it saved him from stretching his arm.

Having deposited his stake, he waited for the man with the rake to pull it into the bank.

"When it is gone," he said, "I'll just make a few more bets, and when they are gone, I'll go. I've got exactly half-an-hour to spare before I start to catch my train out of Monte."

Just then the man with the rake added a lot more notes to the pile of the duke, and pushed them towards him.

"What!" cried his grace. "Have I won? How annoying! No, I won't pick them up. Leave it where it is. It's sure to go next time."

A gentleman asked his grace, "Do you play upon a system?"

"Oh, lud, no," said Eastminster; "Only for fun." . . . What! I've won again? Oh, hang it, you know, this will never do!"

He thought he would choose another method of losing, so he picked up the pile, which was a big one now, added more to it, and changed his square. . . .

At the end of half-an-hour, when he had to rush for his train, he had won over a thousand pounds. "I'd sooner have lost," he said. "Winning money I don't want is no excitement for me."

A gambler turned and followed him with envious eyes, muttering, "That man has the luck of the Devil!"

### Scene the Second.

Young Charles Golightly, a junior officer in the Guards, was fingering feverishly a hundred pounds in bank notes. They were very precious to him, and rightly so, for he had just got them from a moneylender in exchange for a bill for two hundred.

He intended to make the most of them—so he turned into the gambling den of his friend Swills, in Sloane Place.

He knew that this must be the finish; either a big win, which might set him temporarily on his feet, or he must resign his commission and—as he said—"chuck it."

So he put his fortune to the hazard, not of the die, but of the card. Baccarat was the game, served up by friend Swills.

Golightly's fivers went one by one, and friend Swills accepted them amiably, in quite the most friendly manner. There was no doubt about the sincerity of such friendship.

As the hours wore on, the young soldier's face grew whiter and his pounds fewer. The cards were against him. D—n the cards! It is a pious wish, seldom fulfilled.

He knew the game, and he played it systematically. He put his last fiver on at the last deal, facing ruin or a turn of fortune.

He held a six. He could draw another card, if he chose. But six was a good number—not far from nine, the winning number, so he stood by his six. The bank drew the card he might have taken. The bank's original number was four. The card drawn was a three. It made the bank's total seven, and Golightly's last fiver vanished.

He staggered away from the table.

"Going?" asked Swills.

"What's the good of staying?" he retorted bitterly. "I have the Devil's own luck!"

**Our Record Football Prize of £6 a Week for Life almost won. See page 369.**

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to take full advantage of our present Bargain Sale Prices—if you want to be in time to choose from the most exclusive stock in the Kingdom—if you want to be in time to save a substantial amount on any piece of furniture you care to purchase, we would earnestly request you to call at our Showrooms while our Sale is still on.

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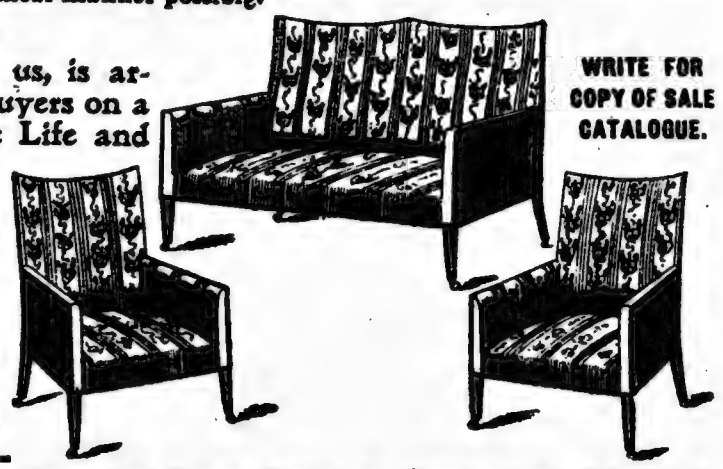

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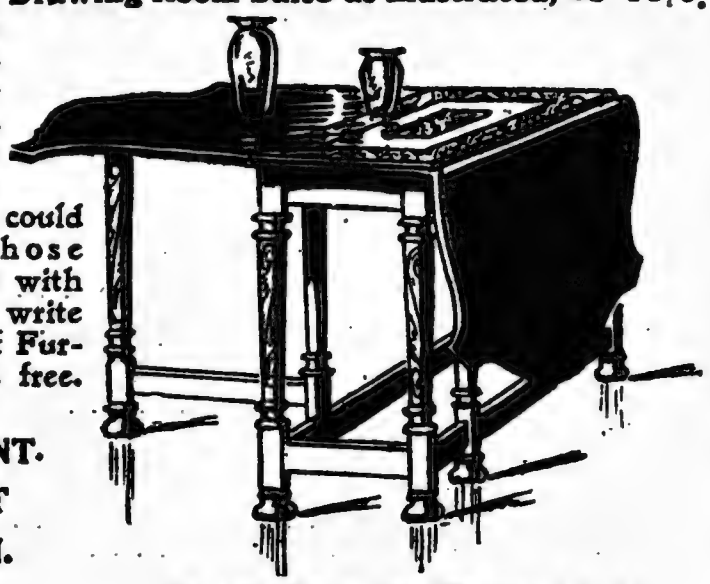

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## IN THE CONSULTING ROOM OF DR. BULL.

By Walter Moore.

### VII.—MRS. PANKHURST.

What? Indeed? . . . The notorious Mrs. Pankhurst! . . . Pardon me; I should say celebrated, or famous. . . . Yes, yes. . . . Take a seat. . . .

But, my dear madame, holding such strong feministic views as you do, why not consult one of the several noted physicians of your own sex? . . . I see, I see. . . . Do not feel that you can confide in them professionally; that a consultation with a physician always partakes of the nature of a confession, and a woman is the last person a sensible woman will confess to. . . . Ha, ha, ha! . . . Mrs. Pankhurst, your candour is delightful. . . . And, according to my own careful observation, your judgment in the matter is sound. . . . All women, you see, are potential rivals of one another. . . . It is a physiological as well as a psychological fact. . . . But come, tell me, what is the trouble?

Ah! . . . Yes, yes. . . . H'm! . . . I see. . . . Now, when this black depression, this fearful melancholia settles upon your mind, making life a weariness of the flesh, are you never able to trace the cause of it? . . . Yes, yes. . . . You are dimly aware of the source of your trouble, but dare not whisper it even to yourself. . . . So far as you know, your bodily health is good? . . . You are conscious of no organic disease? . . . No? . . . Well, that is satisfactory, so far as it goes; but we are not the best judges of our own health, you know, madame. . . . I had better examine you, to satisfy us both in that regard. . . . Just remove your—— Thank you, that will do. . . . Now say ninety-nine. . . .

Thank you, Mrs. Pankhurst, that is sufficient. . . . You will find a mirror behind the screen. . . .

Now, sit down, and listen to what I have to say. . . . I am pleased to be able to pronounce you physically sound, so we must look elsewhere for the cause of your disorder. . . . It is obviously mental, and, knowing something of your principles and activities, I shall venture to give you a considered opinion on your case. . . . I am old enough to be your step-father, my dear madame, so you must excuse anything I say that may hurt you. . . .

In the first place, you are oppressed by the consciousness of failure. . . . Having created, whether intentionally or not, a sort of Frankenstein monster in the shape of the militant Suffragist movement, you are horrified by, but powerless to restrain, the devilish actions of your infernal invention. . . . Indeed, as so often happens in the case of hysterical subjects, you are irresistibly drawn to the thing you fear and hate, and feel forced to encourage it in its career of wild, meaningless, and irresponsible destruction. . . But all the time you are painfully conscious of the agonizing fact that the machine you constructed for the benefit of the cause you have at heart is now involving both that cause and yourself in utter destruction. . . . It is a terrible position for any highly-strung, refined, and public-spirited woman to find herself placed in, and I can quite understand it's giving rise to recurring fits of the deepest mental gloom and spiritual misery. . . . Unfortunately, there is not a drug in the British Pharmacopœia that would be of the slightest help to you. . . . I can write you no prescription. . . It would be a farce to do so. . . All I can do is to give you some honest and friendly advice—strive to arrest the growth of the malignant militant cancer that is destroying the once healthy suffrage movement. . . . If you cannot cut it off from yourself, cut yourself off from it. . . . Only in this drastic way can your mental balance and natural cheerfulness of disposition be restored. . . . Good-bye, good-bye! . . . Take my advice, and you will live to bless the day you did so!

**"Bullets" Prizes Value over £20,000 already Awarded.**

# OUR ADVICE.

We hear a lot nowadays about the scarcity of men who are capable of earning as much as £5 a week and the struggle for existence of the thousands of men who are not able to demand more than 30s. a week to keep their wives and families.

Although in a few cases "bad luck" may be the reason, there is no disguising the fact that every man has his future in his own hands, more or less, and it is the man who realises this fact that is constantly on the look-out for opportunities for safeguarding himself against unemployment and for improving his present wage by making himself worth more money to either his present employer or a fresh one. No matter what his present occupation is, he is the kind of man who says to himself, "I will lose no time in fitting myself to enter the Motor Industry, which is now in its infancy, and which offers by far the best chances to smart men, and I will call or write at once to the Motor Industry's training centre:—The British School of Motoring, Coventry House, 5 and 6, Coventry Street, Piccadilly Circus, W. (opposite the Prince of Wales Theatre, near Leicester Square), for their Free Illustrated Prospectus (J) on how to obtain instruction in Practical Motoring in my spare time and how to get a berth in the Motor Industry."

This is the kind of man who succeeds—he does not rely upon his present job or trade: he sees that he has two strings to his bow. He is the smart man—are you one also?


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LASSITUDE

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## OPEN LETTERS, AND POSTCARDS.

**To the Right Hon. Winston Churchill, First Lord of the Admiralty.**

Sir,—The new code of regulations controlling the airways of our common country is received with thanks. I shall at once send them to the Kaiser and Lord Northcliffe, trusting to obtain their joint approval of them in due course. Also, if I can find the advertising joker or naval scarer who has been sending up fire-balloons to alarm the *Daily Mail*, I will consult with the policeman on the beat as to what is to be his earthly future. You will notice that another jester is now sending up these balloons in Germany to frighten the terrific Teuton, who believes they are French airships inspecting his fortifications with a view to dropping explosive bombs on them one of these dark and deadly evenings. It is all very sad.

As to these new airship laws, having studied them carefully I must say they look very impressive hung up in a frame. Have the goodness to state how it is proposed to enforce them, however; for I don't see how foreign airships passing over this country can be shot down in the dark. Even if they could be, I am unaware where the Army or the Navy will find a gun to do it with. As for compelling the pilot to descend in response to certain signals, you can take a man to the water but you can't make him drink, and my present impression is that you might signal to an airship pilot three or four thousand feet in the air to come down till you were black in the face for all the effect it would have. You and Seeley must have considered all these things, and I should be glad of enlightenment. But I must give you warning that whatever you say will be used as evidence for or against you, and that you are not bound to say anything at all if you think it is likely to incriminate you or anybody else.

John Bull.

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**To the Right Hon. Herbert Samuel, His Majesty's Postmaster-General.**

Sir,—I wish to enter an emphatic protest against the amateurish bungling of your department in the matter of the Marconi negotiations. I cannot say exactly how far you are personally responsible for the series of sorry shifts which we have witnessed, but you are the titular head of a great Business Department, and as such I cannot acquit you of gross ineptitude and palpable neglect.

It is a scandalous thing that at this time of day we should be without effective equipment for wireless communication. By your dilatory handling of a matter of vital importance you are imperilling high national interests. I call upon you to cease fooling, and to get to business.

You should impress upon the Select Committee that the matter they have in hand is urgent, and brooks no delay. They must bring their investigations to a speedy conclusion and let us have their Report. Much valuable time will be saved if they cease bothering themselves about the frothings of Maxse and Chesterton and address themselves to the business which has been committed to them.

As for you, next time you enter into a contract with a commercial concern, let the job be done openly and in the light of day. Clean daylight never yet hurt a square deal. And, meanwhile, try to infuse a little courtesy into your communications with the Marconi people. Bad manners are never good business.

John Bull.

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**To Sir Edward Henry, Chief Commissioner of Metropolitan Police.**

Dear Sir Edward Henry,—My attention has been called to an inquest recently held upon the body of a nurse who was knocked down and fatally injured by a motor-car at the Marble Arch. Although the crossing in question is one of the most dangerous in London, it was stated at the inquest that only one policeman was on point duty, and that this single officer had no less than eight separate lines of traffic to control—a task obviously beyond the powers of any one man.

There must have been a grave oversight somewhere, and I urge you to give the matter your attention. Immediate steps must be taken to prevent a repetition of this sad disaster.

John Bull.

**To Dr. Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States.**

Dear Mr. President,—Accept my hearty greetings! It is not my practice to indulge in meaningless compliments, and it is too early yet to judge of your fitness for the high office to which you have been called. But you have begun well, and I wish you luck.

Signs are not wanting that in America, as in England, the break-up of the Party system is but a question of time. It may well be that great changes may occur while you are at the helm of State. I trust that you may rightly interpret the aspirations of your countrymen, so closely knit with ours in blood and speech. So shall it be your high privilege to guide a mighty people along the broad highway of prosperity and peace.

John Bull.

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**To Ex-President Taft, Washington, U.S.A.**

Sir,—I cannot pretend to regret your departure, neither can I say much in the way of compliment about your Presidential performances. Your best friend would not claim that you have enhanced your reputation during your tenure of the White House. Your enemies would state the case much more unkindly.

Your attitude over the Panama Canal business was about as bad as it could be. Happily your successor has wisely taken action calculated to avert the worst consequences of your indiscretion. But for the patience and forbearance of our own Foreign Secretary, you might have earned a lasting but sinister reputation as the first man in a century who broke the peace of the English-speaking world. I have glanced at your valedictory addresses and I admire your refreshing candour. You say that "laziness, procrastination, and love of society" are your besetting sins. I think, if I may say so, that your self-diagnosis is substantially correct, and my prescription for you would be—copious draughts of Western air, and prolonged retirement from public life.

*Pax vobiscum!* Adieu! John Bull.

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**To E. W. Garrett, Esq., Stipendiary Magistrate, West London.**

Sir,—You have been guilty of a dereliction of duty. A foreign woman was recently brought before you, charged with gross and persistent cruelty to a little girl. The woman was a dancing mistress and the child her pupil. The prisoner pleaded guilty to the charge, and even had she not done so, the evidence was overwhelming. For the defence it was merely urged that the woman had sometimes treated the child kindly; in other words, the poor mite had had occasional respites from the savage brutality with which she was normally treated. It was your duty to pass a sharp sentence in such a case as this, if only as a deterrent to others who may be disposed to maltreat defenceless children. Instead of which you passed over the offence, binding the prisoner over to be of good behaviour, with a few trite and commonplace observations upon the wisdom of kindly treatment in the training of children. Such action as this sets a premium on brutality and offends every humane instinct. Moreover, it lowers you and your office in the estimation of all decent men and women.

John Bull.

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**To Miss Ellen Terry, 215, King's Road, Chelsea.**

Dear Miss Terry,—On behalf of many thousands of your old friends and admirers, I want to tender you hearty birthday greetings—which, though somewhat belated, are none the less sincere—and to express the hope that you may speedily be restored to health.

We shall never be able to repay you, or even adequately to thank you for all the joy you have given us. To many of us your supreme art has been not merely a recreation, but an inspiration and a power. Even now, we feel a thrill of warm remembrance as we go back in reverie to the old Lyceum days, or recall your triumphs at "Old Drury" in its prime.

May your declining days be sweetened by the knowledge that you have been true to your highest conceptions of art and beauty, and have rendered joyous service to your day and generation.

John Bull.

**This Week both a LIFE PENSION and £500 MUST be Won. Final Coupon**

# THE "SAINT" AND THE "TAINT."

*(In the Special Article this week on our Great Derby Sweep, we point out the absurdity of the Government refusing to raise revenue from racing.)*

**JOHN BULL: "You want revenue, Mr. Chancellor; why not take it from sport?"**
**Mr. LLOYD GEORGE: "Oh, my dear Mr. Bull, I couldn't! The money would be tainted."**

## FOOTLIGHT FACTS AND FAVOURITES.

By Irene Miller.

To Mr. Esmond's Criterion comedy a girl should take her father if he has stingy ideas concerning dress allowance. Eliza, the heroine, has been educated by an aunt who thinks that damsels should absolutely strive to make themselves plain, as then they will be "safe," able to eat their meals in comfort and go to bed in peace. When poor Eliza, with aspect harmonious to this theory, is flung amongst strangers, she finds that men will barely trouble to be even civil to her. Moral to fathers—dress your girls badly, and you will have them on your hands for all time!

Eliza falls in love with her guardian, who is engaged to an actress. At the sight of this alluring and beautifully clad individual, Eliza feels a weariness at being so "safe." She longs to become "in danger," and this change she speedily effects, simply by means of dress. Curls on her forehead, feathers in her hat, dainty laces and satins clothing a well-corseted figure—and behold! the self-same men are fighting amongst themselves to become Eliza's husband!

It shows a real sense of humour and a delightful absence of undue vanity for any actress to consent to turn herself into such a series of scarecrow figures as Miss Eva Moore does in this *rôle*, for Eliza's first attempt to emulate her rival—by means of a golden toupée and vulgarly showy finery—is as grotesque in its way as is her original "safe" aspect. As a fact, Miss Eva Moore does not depend much upon the arts of the toilette for her pleasing appearance, as I happen to know; for the first time I saw that lady in "private life" was in the sea off the end of Brighton Pier! Chance made us speak, and we hung on to the steps conversing for quite a time, silenced now and again by a wave passing over our heads. Now here is another moral! The well-known actress was thoroughly sweet and charming to the stranger whom she met in the briny, although she certainly had no means of knowing that it was a journalistic eye noting the fact that she looks pretty even with a bathing-cap and a face wet with the salt sea.

### A Matter of "Love."

Mr. Ben Webster and Miss Sarah Brooke took the leading parts in "A Matter of Money" at the Little Theatre, and it is impossible to speak too highly of their acting. Some critics present objected that Miss Brooke over-acted! Not at all; she was placed in harrowing circumstances, and showed herself "harrowed" accordingly. It is a sign of old age stealing on when an artiste takes to playing impassioned *rôles* with too large a dose of that admirable quality—restraint. I have seen a very celebrated actress (now soon to become a grandmother) depict a parting for ever from the Beloved of her Heart with a nonchalance and placidity that would not be over-flattering to the aforesaid Beloved, had she been merely saying adieu for twenty-four hours. Not being about to qualify as a grandmother, Miss Sarah Brooke still goes in for abandon in her art, in preference to unbroken "restraint"—and long may it be so!

"A Matter of Money" also teaches a moral—this time to the Man in the Street. (Who dares say the Stage is not a moral force?) This lesson is of a very practical order—that if you have to earn your own living, you simply cannot afford immoral adventures. Here is the story briefly:—Imagine a married couple who lead a cat-and-dog life until, in misery and desperation, the wife, Lucia, becomes the leading spirit in a love affair with her doctor. The husband discovers this, and jumping at the chance, goes straight to his lawyer to start divorce proceedings. The erring wife—really equally delighted at the prospect of love and liberty—hurries off to tell her doctor-lover that the crisis has come, and that the need for hateful secrecy is past, only to find that the prospect of exposure crushes him with utter despair. He cannot afford it, he explains. Reputation is as much to him as any woman—losing it, he loses his work, and that implies absolute starvation to himself, his wife and child. He tries not to be too unkind, but none the less makes it very obvious that Lucia counts for simply nothing, so far as his real interest in life is concerned. There is only one way out of this tragedy. We have had several references to a level-crossing, and when finally Lucia rushes off without her hat, we all know that she is going to get herself killed. Obviously not a play for languid acting!

## John Bull League Notes.

(By the General Secretary.)

Plymouth.—The President was in wonderful form at the great gathering at the Guildhall. On all hands I hear that never was such a meeting known in the history of that fine old building. Long before the advertised hour a vast crowd gathered, and by the time the President stepped on to the platform every available inch of space was occupied, and still people pressed to get in. Mr. Bottomley opened in characteristic, quiet fashion, but when he was thoroughly warmed to his work, the old-time fire asserted itself, and when he sat down after speaking for over an hour and a half, he had delivered one of the best speeches of his life.

Bristol.—I am at the Lyndale Hotel, Clifton, and the demand for tickets for the meeting to-morrow (Friday) has been so great that it has necessitated a special staff to deal with the matter. The doors of the historic Colston Hall will be thrown open at 7 p.m., half-an-hour before the usual time, so that the audience may secure comfortable seats and take the opportunity of listening to the organ recital by Mr. George Riseley, and also to the singing of the two rousing and popular League songs. Tickets may be obtained from any of the following:—Local Secretary, Mr. W. P. Frankham, The College, Westbury-on-Trym, or from Messrs. B. G. Brown, 4, Rozel Road, Horfield; G. T. Clements, 234, Newfoundland Road; S. Cleak, 11, Argyle Road, St. Paul's; A. E. Savery, 24, Anglesea Place, Clifton; and also of the Local Chairman, Mr. M. Waldron, 9, Devon Road, Fishponds. Stamped addressed envelope must accompany each application.

Portsmouth.—The President's forthcoming visit to the Town Hall is awaited with keen interest, and the scenes at Plymouth are sure to be repeated. How the inhabi tants of the naval towns do welcome us! The date a rranged is Friday, the 28th inst. Mr. E. Rooms, of 405, Commercial Road, will be pleased to meet a pplications for tickets upon receipt of a stamped and addressed envelope. He also has a few reserved seats at one shilling each.

Manchester.—The annual meeting fixed for Thursday, last, has been adjourned to the Coal Exchange on April 3rd, at 8 p.m. Mr. Ross Clyne will preside, and will deliver an address on the work of the League. I hear that the local committee have a most ambitious scheme to put forward.

Birmingham.—The annual meeting was held at the Branch headquarters, the Central Restaurant, Corporation Street, the members being present in full force. The election of officers and committee took place, and the outline of the local propaganda was most enthusiastically received. The Committee are organising a smoking concert, and I shall announce the date next week.

A Note.—All communications upon League matters should be sent addressed to me direct, and *not* enclosed with coupons for competitions, or with correspondence with other departments.

## The John Bull League.

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A well-known firm of tailors, Messrs. H. Thomas & Co., of 142, Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C., offer to make a Gent's Complete well-made Stylish Suit to measure for only **15s. 6d.** Whilst this offer, which is made only to "John Bull" readers, is no less startling than the paper's offer of a £5 note, it is perfectly honest, and made by a responsible firm.

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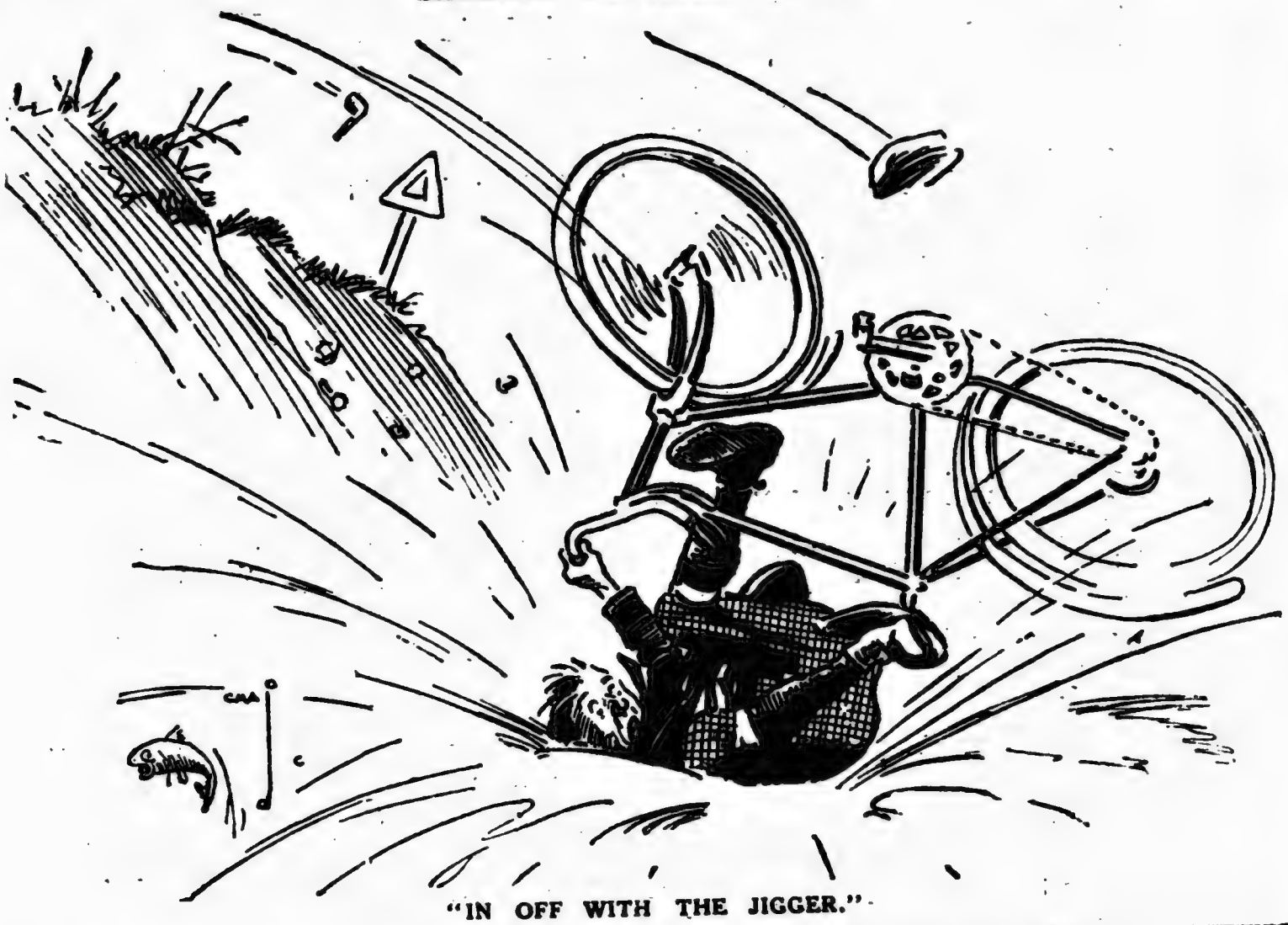
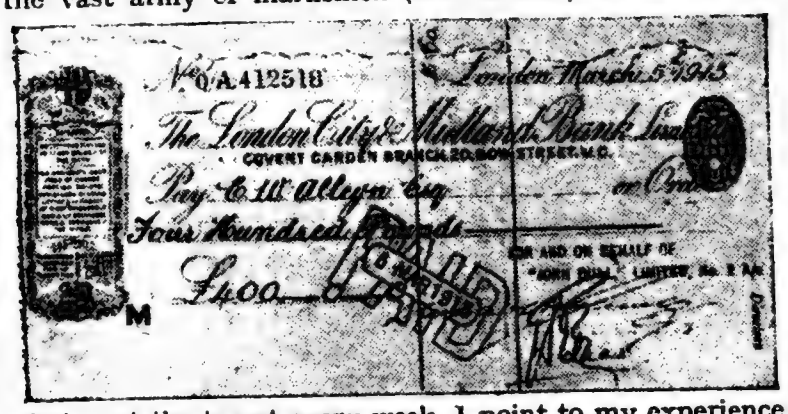


"IN OFF WITH THE JIGGER."

## OUR NO. 20 "BULLETS" COMPETITION.

### A WESTBOURNE GROVE DOCTOR'S £400.

Dr. E. W. Allyn, of 35, Newton Road, Westbourne Grove, is the second medical practitioner to win the premier prize in a "Bullets" competition, and he is naturally proud of the achievement. It was but his third attempt, and though the two previous ones had yielded consolation prizes, he hardly expected to find the bull's-eye so soon. In his own words: "To the vast army of marksmen (and women) who must be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aiming at the target every week, I point to my experience as a little encouragement to go on shooting. For my own part, it is my intention." Apart altogether from the question of pecuniary reward, there is, Dr. Allyn considers, much pleasure and no little mental profit to be derived from this particular competition. Says he: "The obviously genuine way in which it is conducted, too, adds to the pleasure of competing. I have had such heart-breaking experiences in other competitions, where one's 'gems' were scattered as pearls before swine,' that to discover a competition where merit *is* rewarded is a 'find' indeed." The original of the above cheque will be on view in the window of the shop of Mr. G. H. Cocks, 43, Hereford Road, from 13th to 15th March, and in that of Mr. S. Parlett, 4, Richmond Road, from the 16th to the 19th.

## SAD STORIES.

By Leopold Spero.

A Milkmaid, with her Pail on her Head, stepped Blithely along a country Lane one Morning on her Way to Market. Seduced by the Amenities of Nature, her Thoughts went Wandering on somewhat in This Wise: "This is my Very Own Property, this Pail of Milk. It will Swop for Fifty Eggs, any Day. Let's see—what were Orpingtons quoted at in Last Week's *Poultry Pincher?* I shall be Rich. I shall Buy a Toque, and a Wobble Skirt, and an Imitation Sealskin Belt to wear at Church—'nuff to Make that Cat in the Sweetstuff Shop Bust herself with Malice. And then the Young Squire—p'raps he Won't be Interested. No. I *don't* think. But I shall Ignore his Gladsome Gaze. Pooh! I shall Toss my Head at him, just like This." And she Suited the Action to the Word, with the Unfortunate Result that the Pail fell off. But being a Provincial Member of the Ladies' Central Correspondence College of Jiu-Jitsu and General Physical Development, she Retrieved the Pail with a Remarkable Forward Dive, catching it on the Back of Her Attractive Neck, and Replacing it Comfortably *in status quo*. With the result that she Brought her Goods to Market, and all Fell out as she had Anticipated, and she Ran Away with the Young Squire the Following Easter Monday, and now lives in Opulence and Belgrave Square. The Plain Moral of Which is that you Should Never Discount Your Chickens Before you Spill the Milk.

* * *

"Cold work," said the Robin to the Sparrow, wiping his feet on the window-sill. "I never knew such a corner in crumbs in all my born days. I must write to the railway company about that early City train. It takes all my best clients away from breakfast." "You ought not to complain," said the Sparrow: "not with that great red weskit of yours." "Ah, my friend," answered the Robin, sadly, "It isn't every fine waistcoat that has a lining."

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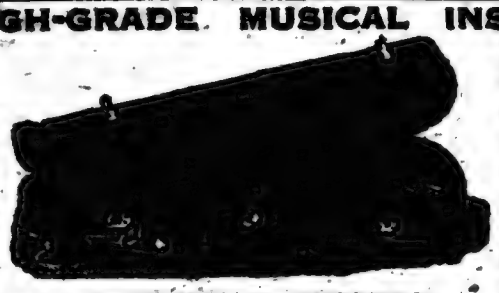

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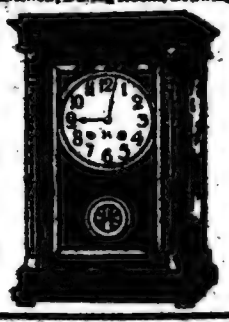

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# John Bull's Letter Bag.

**[The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]**

*NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?*

*CORRESPONDENTS, when writing regarding previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of* ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag,"* AND ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

*AUTHORS and* ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS ATTACHED TO THE MANUSCRIPT. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).*

*The* EDITOR *cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.*

*CORRESPONDENTS desiring* INFORMATION *should place their questions in* CONCISE *form and refrain from sending* VOLUMINOUS DOCUMENTS, *at any rate, until asked for them. The Editor is quite unable to devote the time necessary for perusing and considering the scores of folios which correspondents sometimes send.*

**For Financial and Insurance Replies, see page 394.**
**For Sporting Replies, see page 400.**

"UNEASY" (Belfast).—For the thousandth time, our Editor went to Parliament as an Independent Democrat. Why be uneasy?

MR. J. J. PITT (Whitehaven) informs us that the name of the couple referred to in our recent article, "Whitehaven Wiseacres," is Pett, he himself being the only resident in the town named after the Great Commoner. We have much pleasure in making this correction, and quite understand that Mr. Pitt naturally desires to be entirely dissociated from the case—and even from the Wiseacres!

F. P. (Rhyl).—Mr. Lloyd George's resolution in favour of payment of Members of Parliament was introduced on August 10th, 1911, and carried by a majority of 98. This was in fulfilment of Mr. Asquith's pledge given in the previous November, on the eve of a General Election.

"REX" (Buxton).—In replying to you in our issue of the 1st, regarding postal tuition as qualification for the post of an Insurance officer, we had *not* in mind the Poor Law Postal Training College, of Thanet House, which is quite a *bond-fide* and useful institution.

"HOWBERY" (Wallingford).—If your complaint against the book agency you mention is a matter of public interest, you had better send us full particulars and we will look into the same. Obviously we cannot investigate every personal grievance that is sent us.

"ANXIOUS" (Hammersmith).—Any of the Sunday papers will probably accept your advertisement. "Being a widower with a young family," you are "looking out for another partner." What is the value of the share you are offering in the business?

A. J. T. (Chiswick, W.).—You should write to *Mary Bull* about the child.

F. A. (Bridlington).—Judging by the coupon you send us, A. Almaud and Co., 27, Beaconsfield, Hyson Green, Nottingham, is another fool-catching firm.

J. W. P. (Barton Turns).—We decline to make ourselves a tribunal for the settlement of bets.

S. W. (Togo, W. Africa) after giving his experience of the City Sale and Exchange, tells us that we penetrate as far as Togo (where the famous Admiral came from, we presume) every week, and are read by three Germans and an unlimited number of English-speaking natives. We are gratified. It sounds almost Togo-od to be true!

"A FAIR READER" (Brighton).—Excuse us from discussing brown babies, with you.

"DOUBTFUL" (Birmingham) tells us that he has recently had a very unsatisfactory experience regarding an advertisement contract with the Overseas Compendium Company, of 59, Egerton Road, Blackpool, and 21, Cannon Street, Manchester. It may possibly be remembered that in the autumn of 1909 we received several complaints regarding this concern, whose business consists in the issue of a publication distributed to foreign buyers and importers.

"ASSURANCE CHAP" (Bolton).—The Hackney Furnishing Company have a high reputation, which they seem anxious to enhance, for dealing fairly with their customers.

"READER" (London, N.) calls our attention to the rules of the Provident Clothing and Supply Company, with headquarters at Bradford, but apparently possessing many branches. We certainly consider No. 8: "The householder is held responsible for all shares obtained for members in his or her house," very unfair. The only way to secure protection seems to be to debar canvassers from the premises.

"MERCANTILE MARINE" tells us that JOHN BULL has been prohibited in the rooms of the Imperial Merchant Service Guild for some time past. This is good news, for, as he says, 95 per cent. of the officers of the merchant service read us, and they will now, of course, have to purchase their own copies. He suggests that the reason for the ban is that the "members are at present seething with discontent at the manner in which business is being conducted by those in authority at the Guild." This may, of course, be so, but we rather fancy that we are boycotted because we have absolutely ignored the voluminous manifestos which, a short time ago, reached us almost daily from the Guild officials.

G. R. (Southall) complains that although there are thousands of factory workers in Southall, there is not one available bath, either public or private, in which to remove the stains of honest toil. And yet we pride ourselves on being a particularly cleanly people! Here's a chance for a speculative bath-builder.

"COUNTER-SKIPPER (Birmingham).—We pay no attention to the results of other competitions, and do not think it fair to penalize competitors because their efforts happen to be similar to those which have secured prizes elsewhere. Every "Bullets" coupon is judged separately on its merits.

R. L. (Dover).—Sorry we don't know when the Whiteley Homes will be ready. All we know is that the trustees don't appear to hustle the philanthropy as breathlessly as they hustle the business.

M. C. B. (Elgin Avenue, W.).—Your idea that the vanishing act of the Rev. Mr. Knight, of Leeds, was a got-up job between himself and the editors of the *Mail* and *Mirror* to sell their papers is ingenious, and indicates a thoughtful disposition.

"PHILANTE" (London, N.E.).—You ask us if we can explain how it came about that Mr. J. Owain Evans, formerly a chemist, of 27, Strutton Ground, Westminster, S.W., was appointed an Inspector for North Wales under the National Insurance Act, at a salary of £350, rising to £500. Mr. Evans was, we believe, born at Criccieth, and his light has therefore, not been hidden under a bushel.

R. W. H. (Brandon, Canada).—Thank you. Hundreds of our Canadian readers keep us well informed of experiences and conditions out there. Though you were "a practical farmer in Northumberland previous to going to Canada with £1,000 in 1903," yourself and your family, we are sorry to say, "are more or less in want and cannot obtain work." From the English emigrants' point of view, we assure you, we are under no delusions, or illusions, about Canada.

A. P. N. (Guernsey).—The law your way is peculiar. The fact that Mr. Carey is still practising as an advocate in the Royal Court though he has been appointed King's Receiver at a salary of £300 per annum seems to indicate that he is at liberty to do so. Perhaps he has accepted his official appointment merely to while away his idle hours.

"BULLITE" (St. James's) complain that the distribution of the staff Christmas fund contributed by the members of a fashionable Club is postponed by the Steward until March or April. Our correspondent should not be unduly alarmed. Many members of the Club may be out of the country during the cold weather, and the Steward may be acting for the best in trying to rope them in on their return.

"ONE OF OUR READERS" (Bishop Auckland).—Oh, that your too, too solid flesh would melt! Frankly, however, we don't think Miss Grace Hartland, the alleged Specialist in Fat Reduction, will melt it.

R. D. (Glasgow).—If you take our advice you will fight shy of A. Anderson, of 3, Garden Road, Dunstable, and his precious "Inventors' Protection Society." Neither his grammar nor his arguments inspire us with confidence.

"ADMIRER" (Buxted) suggests that the winners of the first prizes in our "Bullets" Competitions ought always to give £20 to our "Human Documents" Fund. We hope "Admirer" will be a winner and set the example.

**Our Third Football Competition—Final Coupon this week—**

"A REGULAR READER" (Manchester) denies that American packers ever fill up small tins of corned beef to only three-quarters of the weight declared or invoiced. As he writes anonymously we accept his disclaimer for what it is worth.

"ONE OF THE LEAGUE" (Sheerness).—You will find the addresses of the New Zealand and Australian Government offices in London in "Whitaker's Almanack." The subscription to the John Bull League is renewable yearly—one shilling.

E. W. G. (Merton) draws our attention to the cruel manner in which live pigeons for shooting purposes are sent by rail closely packed in crates. He should write to the R.S.P.C.A. We can deal only with specific authenticated cases.

Miss E. B. (Scarborough), criticising a headline on the fashion page of a contemporary, to wit "Warm Girl's Coat," says "A *warm girl* should need no coat." Perhaps not; but girls of that temperature often discover the necessity for a cloak.

W. H. (Harwich).—We should like to know whether it is true that cases of infectious diseases, including diphtheria, scarlet-fever, and typhoid, are being treated in a general medical ward at Shotley R.N. Hospital. If so, Mr. Winston Churchill's notice should be drawn to the scandal.

A. A. M. (Sawley).—The swan is a "royal fowl" in the same sense that the sturgeon is a "royal fish," and all those that do not bear the mark of a private owner belong to the King. This being so, it naturally follows that it is an offence to shoot one. Only a fool would want to.

J. R. D. (Bangor) points out that our cartoonist recently depicted Lloyd George with his hair parted from left to right, whereas he believes that our beloved Chancellor of the Exchequer parts it from right to left. This criticism strikes us as a case of splitting hairs.

"ANXIOUS" (Norwood).—Edward J. Woods, of 10, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C., the self-styled former "alcohol slave," is a "specialist" whom we are not in a position to recommend. It is a case in which for once, we are inclined to say do *not* touch Wood.

J. S. (Wandsworth Road).—Get the gentleman who informed you of the grievances of the Hastings Gasworks employees to inform *us*. You make confusion worse confounded.

J. H. P. (Walworth).—As the woman is not your wife, she is not entitled to the Maternity Benefit unless she herself is an insured person. Your solicitor is wrong in thinking the Divorce Laws will not be amended; the John Bull League is much too strong to permit this grave social question to be shelved indefinitely. You should join and assist in the work.

C. P. (Southampton).—You say "we ought to know" that, being a *Titanic* widow with two equities, five children, and £300 insurance, the Fund Committee have reduced your allowance from 32s. 6d. to 16s. 6d. a week. Now we do know, and so does everyone else.

F. T. J. (Gloucester).—Quite right. Our warnings against the man have appeared from time to time. As, however, he is now caught and the case is *sub. jud.*, we are silent.

T. B. S. (Buenos Aires).—It is a warning to emigrant girls to be careful in making chance acquaintances on ships. A shocking case of white slavery, indeed, and as you have "heard of many similar," it is evident Buenos Aires ought to have a White Slave Act.

"MARPLOT" (Lower Haling).—Rochester readers may appreciate the dialogue you overheard on Rochester Bridge, which as it is being rebuilt, only one vehicle can cross at a time. Driver of tramcar, ringing his bell and shouting to driver of brewer's dray in front: "Here, can't you go any faster than that?" Drayman: "I'm going as fast as you, ain't I?"

"ANGLO-INDIAN" (Bournemouth).—The particulars required on your maternity claim form reveal nothing which has not to be revealed by every other claimant under the Act. How in the world can you be harmed by the "Declaration of Society's Representative: 'I hereby declare I have inspected the certificate of marriage of the above-named persons'"?

A. W. (Chelsea).—Todd Potts, Litt.D., 12, Upper Cliff Road, Gorleston-on-Sea, is an audacious begging letter-writer whose degree is of the Yankee brand. He has been convicted on two occasions of pledging goods which he had ordered on approval, serving on the last occasion eighteen months' hard labour. You were well advised to keep your money in your pocket. For the moment, we do not recall the Invalids' Children's Aid Association. Ask for the last report and balance-sheet before contributing.

T. M. (London, E.C.) sends the following advertisement cut from the *Evening News*, and suggests that it is an example of true hospitality: "Bedroom to let, also young lady to share room." We must send our Special Commissioner to inquire into the matter.

P. J. (Alresford) rejoices because a Colchester native has won a "Bullets" prize. It appears he did not credit the town with possessing so much wit. He forgot the enormous brain power that lurks in oysters.

"GRIEVANCE" (Southend-on-Sea).—The idea of Mr. George Marsh, Managing Director of Marsh and Sons, Furniture Removers, Southend-on-Sea, in reducing the wages of several employees whom he overheard "using the most filthy and obscene language," threepence a day, is ingenious and enterprising. He is evidently either looking after the dividends or is anxious to cure you and others of a bad habit.

J. H. (St. Ives).—W. Cooper, Limited, Old Kent Road, have treated you as disgracefully as they have treated others who have sent them money for goods. People who deal with them after our warnings have only themselves to blame.

C. C. (Clerkenwell) sends us a somewhat inelegant story, the *motif* of which is the suggestion that a certain *chef* became entitled to the Maternity Benefit because he was the first to "carve" after midnight on January 13th last. A cowardly libel.

E. W. (Billingsgate).—Why worry because the Vicar of St. Paul's, Lorrimore Square, S.E., announces on the cover of his parish magazine, "Everybody's Doing It! Doing What? Why, taking a little yellow box to complete the fabric of our church." It won't trouble us at all if next week our rev. friend heads his announcement, "What ho, she bumps!"

"READING MEMBER" (Reading).—This gentlemen wishes to know whether members of the Scottish Clerks' Association, Glasgow, are receiving proper attention. He has been laid up for some time, and has sent the Secretary doctor's certificates, but that official treats his letters with shrieks of silence, so he says.

H. A. S. (Cheltenham).—We cannot understand how it is that the police have granted authority to a boy aged fourteen to drive the motor-car of a Cheltenham doctor. In the case of an accident the police as well as the doctor would be in a difficult position. Sure you are right in your facts?

E. T. (Dover) AND A THOUSAND OTHERS.—We are constantly warning our readers against purchasing on the instalment system expensive books they cannot afford, and which in most cases are useless. You have no defence to the summons which has been issued against you, and you had better arrange to pay the amount by small instalments. When an order is given and accepted there is a binding contract, and it cannot be cancelled except with the consent of both parties. If you are under twenty-one the legal position is, of course, different.

C. T. (Coventry), although residing in the town which Peeping Tom made infamous, confesses that he is ignorant of the story of Lady Godiva, and asks us to enlighten him. If he is not pulling our leg, he had better inquire of the oldest inhabitant.

"BEGINNER" (Southsea).—We cannot advise you to have dealings with the Universal Mail Order Institute, of Westminster Bridge Road.

J. W. L. (Tottenham).—If you do not pay the fine inflicted by the magistrate, your goods can be seized and sold for the amount. Every person who goes to prison is a burden on the rates, and this, no doubt, is one of the reasons the "cadi" will not permit you to "do time" instead. We are not in favour of our grandmotherly betting laws, but you have been caught; so pay up, and shut up.

"TRUTH" (Horncastle).—Notwithstanding the arguments you advance, we are strongly opposed to early marriage. To link two comparative children together for life before they know their own minds, or, rather, before their minds are properly developed, is, in our opinion, positively wicked. We see the result of such precocious unions in the London police courts every day. As for instructing the young in preventive measures, as you propose, and letting them marry to save them from "vicious practices" well—were *you* ever young?

"ANTI-SWEATER" (Worcester) tells us that since the Insurance Act came into force the principal glove-makers in Worcester have reduced the pay for glove-making 3d. a dozen, and that the women and girls employed in the factories are saying, "It was bad enough before they docked the money—it is starvation now." But they must not forget—the Maternity Benefit.

"SHIP'S OFFICER" (Mitcham) asks us why Lloyd George, when President of the Board of Trade in 1906, permitted the Plimsol Mark to be raised on all vessels, thus reducing their reserve buoyancy. We cannot say, unless it was an early manifestation of his mania for raising things, such as money, taxes, Cain, &c.

"QUERY" (West Hampstead).—We see nothing alarming in the fact that a large optical works has been erected near the Barracks at Mill Hill, nor can we connect it in any way with the German menace. Are you trying to pull our leg, or to make our flesh creep?

"PERPLEXED" (Muswell Hill).—As you had paid your rent before the receiver was appointed, he cannot compel you to pay it again.

*(A large number of replies are held over.)*

**Turn to Page 391 and enter now. It is Your Last Chance.**

# Bull's Eyes.

Notes of Interrogation:—

Isn't it time that Milk Bill was settled?
How many tries are *you* having? See page 398.
Hasn't the Admiralty an Arch-way of doing things?
Have you a ticket for the "John Bull" Sweepstake?
Don't the women call him the "Go-Home" Secretary?
Have you introduced *Mary Bull* to your womenfolk yet?
Should a railway company take exception to its own rules?
Won't the America Cup be one that 'cheers" if Lipton gets it?
Do the suffragettes find "ragtime" becoming too popular?
How many German soldiers are there in England at this moment?
Will the increased cost of soda-water cause consternation in Fleet Street?
Oughtn't we to keep "up" with Germany in the matter of aerial vessels?

* * *

Merely Rumours:—

That Sir Percy Scott wishes to be called Sir *Per se*.
That Brighter Cricket is welcomed by all the lazy Bats.
That Lord Roberts is a candidate for the Nobel Peace Prize.
That the Aldwych "sight" just now reminds passers-by of Spring Gardens.
That most women now intoxicated with the vote would abstain if they could get it.
That every shareholder in the British South Africa Company looks upon Dr. Jim as the Starr of Hope.

* * *

Novel Household Hints:—

If a grate won't draw, give it a sweep's brush.
Mice convicted of theft should be given the cat.
When a chair needs caning, always start on its seat.
Odd, that women with no figures are so often reckoned up.
Don't let starched things stand, or you will have them limp.
Strange, that when Time hangs it takes a deal of killing.
Firelighters always know their business better than those silly chumps.
"A fortune for a shepherd," we read. It's certain he didn't get it on the crook.
If anything is spilt on a clean cloth, don't complicate matters by upsetting yourself.
If you found a flea in the milk, what would it remind you of? "Hitchy Koo," of course.
Barking doctors have decided to close on Thursday evenings. Rough on barking patients.
A suffragette, whilst in court, threw a directory at the magistrate. More addresses than he looked for.

* * *

We can now locate the derivation of the expression "Great Scott!"

* * *

The latest rag-time melody—"Who were you with last, Knight?"

* * *

If you want a woman who can keep her mouth shut, select one with poor teeth.

* * *

The statement of a French beauty, that women grow fat by talking, cannot be too widely circulated.

* * *

"Novels are under a heavy cloud," says a contemporary. We hope it will break; most of them are so dry.

* * *

The question of mud-splashing by motor cars is being discussed. What about the mud-slinging of certain newspapers.

* * *

Bookies are not allowed on racecourses in New York. A law prohibiting the phrase "you bet" is confidently expected.

* * *

In "Open Windows," Mr. A. E. W. Mason has selected a good name for his play. The public will be sure to "look in."

* * *

Born Highlanders, says a Scottish minister, are notoriously lazy. It is a matter of heredity; their ancestors "took life" easily.

* * *

The strike of finishers and makers-up at a Heywood Ropery has been amicably settled. It is said that the finishers were the makers-up of the quarrel.

* * *

Turkey is reported to have entered into negotiations with Italy with a view to handing over an island in exchange for a loan of £2,000,000. The statement that Mr. John Redmond is negotiating with America is, however, without foundation.

At one time it took two years to make a watch. Now it is done in a tick.

* * *

Signs of the times: There is to be an outdoor exhibition of posters in Leeds.

* * *

The golf caddies at Nice wear blue jerseys. To match the language, we presume.

* * *

Women are to be admitted to the Royal Astronomical Society. The sex is looking up.

* * *

There are millionaire policemen in New York, it is stated. "Copper" Kings, in fact.

* * *

A goose at Gillingham has laid an egg weighing eleven ounces. This will take some "beating."

* * *

In Chicago, any "straphanger" in a tramcar need not pay a fare. Won't the men be polite now?

* * *

Stockings at £48 per pair are to be obtained in Paris. We should want them well-filled for that.

* * *

"The male novelist has a cruel lot nowadays," says Lady Sybil Grant. Yes, a cruel lot—to say.

* * *

"A statesman thinks of the next generation," says Senator Lodge. But it rarely returns the compliment.

* * *

"If a man really knows one woman he can know them all," says Desmond Coke. Yes, if that one will let him.

* * *

The Emperor of Germany has taken up farming. He should bear in mind the importance of avoiding *beat-route!*

* * *

Duff House is to become a sanatorium. We hope no one will be so unkind as to call the inmates "Duffers."

* * *

Mr. Justice Bankes says that cases take too long. A reduction of sentences is Bill Sikes' suggested remedy.

* * *

Two children, each five days old, have been betrothed by their parents. They, at least, will not marry in haste.

* * *

The "heart department" to be founded at the London Hospital will not, we understand, deal with love affairs.

* * *

A man charged with stealing pleaded that he was "trying to get a little home together." He won't need one for a while.

* * *

In Chinese Turkestan, when a marriage is celebrated a bill of divorce is also made out. Here is a tip for the United States!

* * *

At a grown-up "baby" party, a separate room was provided for those who were "naughty." Why not have sent them to bed?

* * *

New York clubmen recently prepared and served a dinner for lady guests. Requests for a spoon must have been embarrassing.

* * *

At the Simple Life Exhibition "model bar," a man has to pay for his own drinks. Bars on this model will not be popular in the Strand.

* * *

The Mumbles foghorn recently sounded for 111 hours continuously. For once, a "foghorn" conclusion must have been eagerly waited.

* * *

One of the callings which shewed a decrease during last year was that of the chimney-sweeps. Due, no doubt, to the increasing popularity of football sweeps.

* * *

Ambitious Descriptions:—

Every mother is MA.
Every constable is a P.C.
Every beggar is a Solicitor.
A thief sometimes takes silk.
Many loafers shine at the Bar.
Every envelope addresser is a director.
Everyone can get a seat on the Bench.
Every newsboy is an authority on Stars.
A hawker is usually a man of standing.
A slavey often gets her canvas on the line.
Many a carpenter has been in the Cabinet.
Every cook is a servant of the Corporation.
Bricklayers are sometimes Empire Builders.
Everybody is making a mark with "Bullets."
A tramp frequently gets the Order of the Bath.

**£400 for Two or Three Words—Awarded every week—See "Bullets," Page 398**

# YOUR LAST CHANCE—FINAL COUPON THIS WEEK

ANOTHER **£6** A WEEK FOR LIFE FOR 20 CORRECT FORECASTS.

MUST BE WON **£3** A WEEK FOR LIFE FOR NEAREST FORECAST SHORT OF FULL CORRECT RESULTS.

MUST BE WON **£500** CASH FOR NEXT HIGHEST CORRECT FORECASTS.

## Remember! Both a Life Pension and £500 in Cash MUST BE WON.

This week our Final Coupon appears, so it is YOUR LAST CHANCE to win one of the following Life Pension and Cash prizes—the largest and most generous offer ever made by any journal in the world.

1. **£6 A WEEK FOR LIFE.** 3. **£500 IN CASH.**
2. **£3 A WEEK FOR LIFE.** 4. **£100 FOR LADIES.**

All you have to do is to forecast the results of the 20 League Games to be played on Saturday, March 22nd, given on the entrance form to be found on the inside of the front cover. Draw your pen plainly through the name of the team you think will lose. If you predict a draw, do not cross out either team.

The £6 a week for Life will be paid to the Competitor who sends us an entrance form containing a correct forecast of all the matches given, played to a finish—EVEN IF THE NUMBER BE ONLY 10 OR 12.

### Abandoned Matches make no Difference.

In the event of no entrance form being received giving the whole of the correct results,

**£3 a Week for Life**

will absolutely be paid to the Competitor giving most correct results short of the full number.

We shall *also* pay the sum of

**£500 in Cash**

to the reader whose entrance form contains the next highest number of correct forecasts.

**NO GOALS REQUIRED.**
**NO ENTRANCE FEES.**

As there are no restrictive conditions there is no reason why the £6 a week for Life should not be won. In the unlikely event of this not happening,

### Both the £3 a Week for Life and £500 Cash must be Won.

You can send in as many entries as you like, and any number of entries may be enclosed in the same envelope.

Friends can send their entries together in one envelope, but every coupon must be signed in ink by the person making the forecast.

### £100 FOR LADIES ONLY.

We are determined that the ladies shall have a prize this time, so that if no lady wins any of the above prizes, we shall award an additional prize of £100 to the lady whose coupon gives more correct forecasts than that of any other lady Competitor. *Get all your lady friends to enter at once.*

Our system of checking the Entrance Forms of Competitors is as perfect as human ingenuity can make it. Fraud is rendered absolutely impossible, whilst all risk of a coupon being overlooked is, by our elaborate arrangements, totally eliminated.

The Competition is one of pure skill, and competitors should make a point of studying the football columns of the daily papers.

**NOW IS THE TIME TO ENTER. FINAL COUPON THIS WEEK.**

**£100 CASH**
**FOR LADIES ONLY.**

**THE RULES AND**
**COUPON**
**will be found**
**ON THE INSIDE**
**of**
**FRONT COVER.**

**You can send in as many Coupons as you like.**

## BOTH A LIFE PENSION PRIZE AND £500 MUST BE WON.

*After you have filled up your entries for this competition turn to page 398, where you will find particulars of "Bullets," a simple and attractive Competition, which you should not fail to enter. A first prize of £400 in cash is offered this week, in addition to more than 5,000 cash and other prizes to the value of £1,720.*

ALSO SEE PAGE 372 FOR PARTICULARS OF GREAT "JOHN BULL" DERBY SWEEP.

## CITY NOTES.

[*For Financial and Insurance Replies, see page 394.*]

### The Stock Markets.

The stock markets are beset by various troubles now. While Russia and Austria appear to be harmonious enough, the Balkan States are slow in making peace, and thus the hoarding of gold on the Continent continues. Money is getting tight, and gold is being withdrawn from New York. It is doubtful whether the tax of £50,000,000 on property will go down with the German people, and some other arrangements are not improbable. Of course, Berlin has been throwing out a great deal of stock, notably Canadian Pacifics and American Rails, and other Continental centres have followed suit, while the dealers here, seeing an avalanche coming, put prices down all round, but there is no fear of any real financial breakdown, as the London Stock Exchange is in an exceptionally strong position, the speculative account being very small. Consols are lower again on sales from the Continent, and by underwriters who had to take up new issues. Home Rails stand in an excellent position, especially as there will be large increases in comparison with last year's strike period. New York is greatly frightened by withdrawals of gold, and German borrowing there, and so Yankees are down. Rubbers are flat, too, especially the speculative shares, as the shipments of Para rubber are earlier than usual, and altogether Rubbers are likely to be lower before they go better. Oil shares, on the other hand, keep comparatively firm. Kaffirs and Rhodesians are flat, but a considerable bear account has been piled up in both, and that will eventually tell its own tale. Coppers are lower again, with the exception of Tintos, which are strongly supported from Paris. In short, while speculative commitments should as far as possible be avoided, this is the opportunity for the investor with money at his command to secure great bargains.

### Consolidated Oilfields of South Africa.

We understand a cablegram has been received from Mr. J. E. Mills Davies, the eminent Johannesburg geologist, to the effect that he has left for the Ceres district with a view to selecting sites for sinking test bores. We need scarcely say that his report will be awaited with interest. Meanwhile, we direct the attention of our readers to the full particulars of this important undertaking, which will be found on pages 396 and 397 of our present issue. There can be no question that the company is possessed of potentialities second to none in the oil market, and we reiterate our opinion that its shares constitute an exceedingly attractive purchase.

### If You See it——!

As long ago as September 21st last, we announced that the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, in their endeavour to obtain control of the River Plate trade, had absorbed the Lamport and Holt Line and were then, and had been for some time, in negotiation with the object of acquiring the Nelson Line. We, therefore, advised investors to watch the shares of the latter, "notwithstanding the fact that the usual denial of our statement will probably appear." As is customary, we hit the nail on the head—for emphatic denials *did* appear, one paper even publishing special placards giving us the lie direct and purporting to print interviews with various officials of the companies concerned, in which those gentlemen were reported as characterising our statement as "absurd." Now, however, these quidnuncs are, as usual, eating their words, if, indeed, they do not take refuge in complete silence in regard to the matter—for the official announcement has at last been made that "the negotiations are practically complete." This is, of course, what we said six months ago. Who has profited by the gullibility of the public in accepting the more or less official denials of the truth of our statement? If you see it——!

### 37 Per Cent. Profit in 18 Days.

Here is a little table showing how capital may be "watered." We take dates and figures from the prospectus of the Florida Orange and Grape Fruit Groves Ltd., published last week:—

February 13th, 1913. Owner sells to Johnson for £13,500.

February 28th, 1913. Johnson sells to New Works Syndicate, Ltd. for £16,625.

March 4th, 1913. New Works Syndicate, Ltd., sells to company for £21,500.

On the last-mentioned date the public were invited to find the whole of the company's capital, viz., £35,000, in cash, so that a profit of £8,000 cash might go into the pockets of intermediaries in the deal which they had concluded but 18 days previously. This works out at 740 per cent. per annum on the £13,500 paid to the original owner.

### New Ramps for Old.

The directors of the Diamantino Tin Development Syndicate, Ltd., are approaching shareholders in the lately deceased South Sumatra Rubber Estates, Ltd.—upon whose remains the Board of Trade are about to hold an inquest—offering to give the South Sumatra victims an opportunity of recouping their losses by purchasing shares in the Diamantino Tin concern. The latter has a capital of £3,000, of which £2,200 is offered, so that the directors and their friends are holding not more than £800 worth between them. From South Sumatra to Cornwall is a far cry, and we do not think it is the only cry which the shareholders in the former will indulge in if they submit to the temptation now offered them. This is Lent and we counsel them to practise some self-denial.

### Montague Grant—A Warning.

In our issue of January 4th, we referred to the unfulfilled promises contained in the prospectus of the United Malaysian Rubber Co., Ltd. On the 18th of that month Mr. Montague Grant, of St. Martin's House, Ludgate Hill, issued a circular to the shareholders of the company, stating that he had been consulted by some of their body in regard to the affairs of the concern, and that he was ready to act for them on the well-known sixpence-a-share plan. On the 22nd ult. we similarly dealt with the Way-Halim (Sumatra) Rubber and Coffee Estates, Ltd., the Peneiro Rubber Estates, Ltd., and the San Cristobal (Mexico) Rubber, Tobacco and Estates Co., Ltd., all promoted in the offices of Messrs. Goodlet, Fairbairn and Berry, of 6, Broad Street Place, E.C. On February 24th, Grant addressed the shareholders in the Way Halim; on February 25th those in the Peneiro; and on February 26th those of the San Cristobal, stating, in each case, that he had made certain enquiries, and that he had advised them to combine with a view to having the affairs of these companies investigated. Lest it be thought that Grant has any connection, either direct or indirect, with this journal, we desire to make it clear that he has not; that what we can learn of this person is certainly not in his favour, and whilst we agree that the affairs of the companies named require full and strict investigation, Grant is, in our opinion, not the person who ought to be selected for the task. It is certainly strange that upon the appearance in these columns of the articles we refer to, Grant should post-haste take up the cry on behalf of shareholders; but we shall be ready to acquit him of any suspicion in the matter if he will send us the names and addresses of the shareholders who consulted him previous to the dates upon which our articles appeared. Failing his doing this, our readers will, no doubt, come to the same conclusion at which we have already arrived.

### Gold Basin Mining Company.

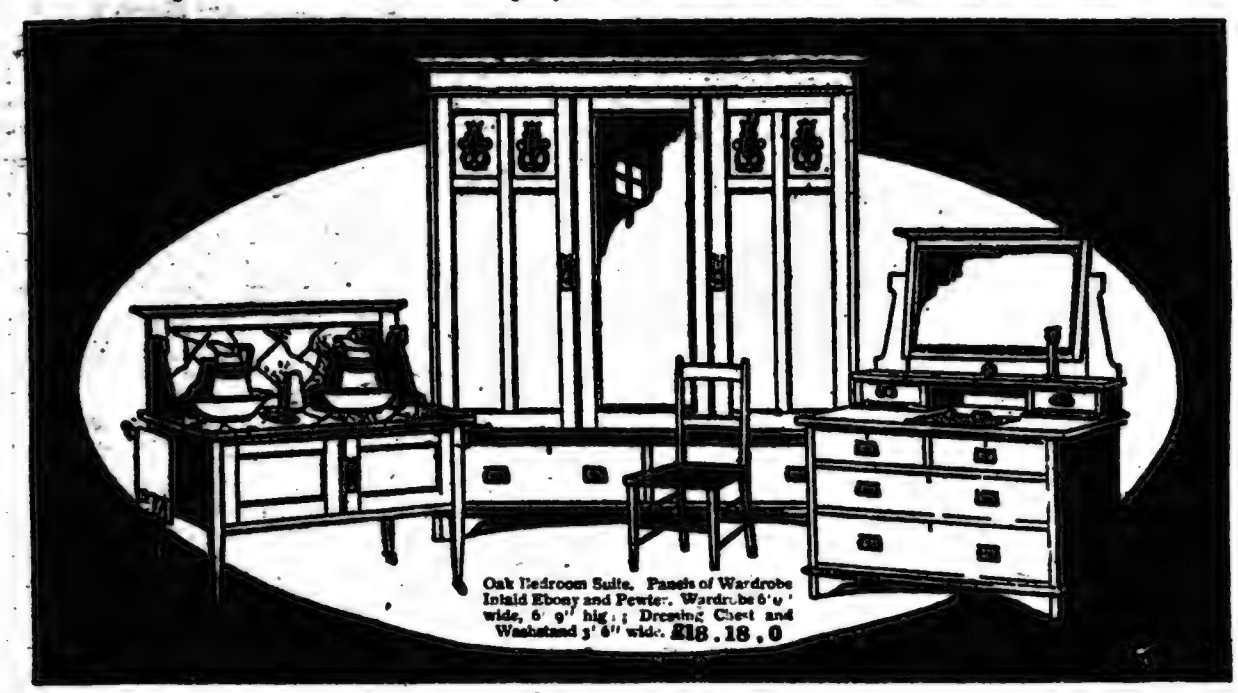
We dealt at some length last week with this interesting mining proposition, and we now understand that a representative of the company has left London for Nevada for the purpose of purchasing machinery and making all necessary plans for commencing active operations.

### Harrods' Hurry.

We do not like this issue of a further 100,000 £1 ordinary shares, at the price of £4 10s. each. Of course, there is no question as to the past success of the company, and there is no reason why the profits should not further increase; but we are not satisfied that there is any real necessity for the issue, the primary purpose of which is said to be the erection of "general factories, bakeries, and fur storage accommodation." We should like to know something about that "fur storage"—and we suggest that the shareholders should press for particulars. Is it to a large extent unsaleable, out-of-date stock? And why establish bakeries? Is the bread trade of the company such an important branch? We are forced to the conclusion that there has been some financial juggling over the acquisition of the property about to be bought by the company. Who are the Trevor Square Syndicate—and what is the extent of the interest of Mr. Burbidge and Mr. Mendel in it? *Why did not the company buy the property direct*—and *what is the profit which the syndicate is making on the resale!* We are surprised that Messrs. McKenna and Co., the company's solicitors, did not insist upon this important fact being disclosed in the prospectus. One word more. Who are the actual underwriters of the issue, and, seeing that the previous issues at the same price were fully subscribed, why is £13,500 being put into their pockets?

**There is only just time to win £6 or £3 a Week for Life and £500. Final Coupon.**

*Every article shewn in the Company's advertisements is in stock at the Showrooms.*

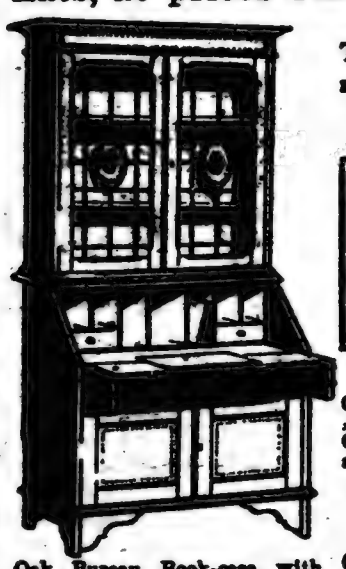


Oak Bedroom Suite. Panels of Wardrobe Inlaid Ebony and Pewter. Wardrobe 6' 0" wide, 6' 9" high; Dressing Chest and Washstand 3' 6" wide. £18.18.0

# A Striking Display

## of Furniture.

A remarkable display of High-class Furniture is now on view at the spacious showrooms of **London's Leading Furnishers,** the Midland Company in Southampton Row, where, in addition to a splendid collection of handsomely designed and well made furniture, a complete series of perfectly equipped model flats, at prices ranging from £25 to £450, is open for inspection.



Oak Bureau Book-case with Leaded Light Glass Doors, 3' 0" wide, 7' 0" high, 16" deep.
**£4 . 15 . 0**

**The huge stock includes every article required for the complete furnishing of the home, even to Plate, Linen, etc.**

**TERMS.**

| Worth. | Per Month. | Worth. | Per Month. |
|---|---|---|---|
| £10 ... | £0 6 0 | £50 ... | £1 8 0 |
| £20 ... | 0 11 0 | £100 ... | 2 5 0 |
| £30 ... | 0 17 0 | £200 ... | 4 10 0 |
| £40 ... | 1 5 0 | | |

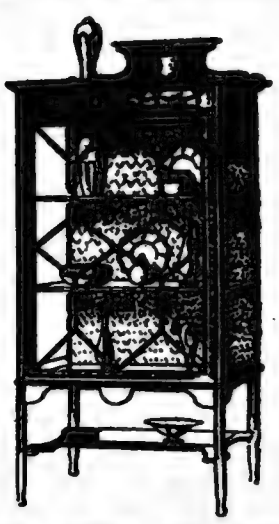
Larger amounts pro rata.

**Railway Fares Paid.**

Country Customers' Fares to town paid on orders of £20 and over. Country orders packed and delivered free. Our Second-hand Department alone contains stock valued at over £10,000. Special weekly catalogue post free on application.

**1913 Catalogue.**

Our elaborate complete Furnishing Guide, containing hundreds of illustrations and many coloured plates, is now ready. A copy will be sent free on request.



Inlaid Mahogany China Cabinet, Sheraton Style, back and shelves lined Brocade. 2 ft. 6 in. wide, 6 ft. 0 in. high, 14 in deep.
**£4 . 4 . 0**

**10% discount for cash.**

# Midland

**No charge for credit.**

**Furnishing Company, Ltd.**

**15 to 23 SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.**

**Hours—9 till 8. Sats.—9 till 1.**

# JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE LETTER-BOX.

*Letters containing enquiries must be addressed to the City Editor,* John Bull, *52, New Broad Street, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.*

**A Postal Order for 1s. must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry.**

Consolidated Oil Fields of South Africa.—W. R. S. (Bournemouth).—A splendid speculative purchase at anything in the neighbourhood of par, viz., £1 per share. See particulars on pages 396 and 397 of this issue.

Hunasgeria Tea.—Lever.—This Company was formed in 1884, and owns 780 acres planted with tea, and 244 acres with rubber. The issued capital is only £28,728, in £1 shares, but the Company has not managed to pay a dividend yet. The next Directors' report is due in May, and it remains to be seen what that document will have to say upon the position. In the meantime, there is no regular market in the shares.

Cunliffe, Russell and Co.—Cardiffian.—The Bonds are quite genuine, and Messrs. Cunliffe, Russell and Co. are a respectable firm—doing a large business in Premium Bonds.

Picture Theatres Co.—Secunderabad.—There is no doubt that the picture theatre craze is being overdone, and we do not advise investment in the concern mentioned, or, for the matter of that, in most of the other Companies owning Cinemas. It is significant that there is no regular market in such shares.

Safe Investment.—Exeter.—We are afraid that you are asking for almost the impossible, as no one can guarantee against loss of capital value. Why not insure against it? Lloyd's would doubtless take the risk, so would one of the leading Insurance Companies. London County stock is safe enough, but, like all other gilt-edged investments, it has suffered from the keen competition of new issues. If you would like to make an exchange, India Stock, yielding up to nearly 4 per cent., would be more suitable.

Premium Bond Trust.—G. T. (Cotherstone).—We do not approve of this kind of fancy concern, regarding which, moreover, there is no information available here. You should have made your enquiries *before* purchasing the shares.

Low-Priced Kaffirs.—J. W. McG. (Dundalk).—Vaal River Gold Fields have possibilities, but obviously they are highly speculative. The Deep Level shares in question are not quoted, and the mine is only marking time. You can do much better in other leading shares on the Eastern Rand.

Chinese Government Bonds.—E. V. (Dover).—Chinese Government Bonds are certainly a good investment in the second-class category. When the new loan has been fixed up, this will clear the air for the whole Chinese group, and greatly improve their market status.

Manufacturing Concern.—S. G. (West Hants.).—The Company is powerfully backed, and is expected to do well. On the other hand, the market in the stock is a limited one, and it is a moot point whether the flotation of such kind of concerns is not being overdone.

Consols.—Shrewsbury.—The outlook is certainly not very hopeful and you might exchange into a higher-yielding security, such as Western Australian 4 per Cent. Bonds, at below 100.

Bank Shares.—Ivor.—You need not fear for the safety of your money invested in shares of the London County and Westminster Bank, and of Barclay and Co. At the same time, you must be prepared for a possible depreciation in capital, from which even the highest class of securities are not immune. The position of these banks is very strong, and they have huge hidden reserves.

India Stock.—Mrs. W. (Hammersmith).—You can invest the £200 in India Stock with perfect confidence, and at present prices the yield would work out to nearly 4 per cent. per annum. Your broker would tell you how to get the dividends.

Rubbers.—W. D. B. (Bath).—Your views seem to be justified, and shares like Bukit Bukit, Sembawang, Kombok and Sennah, might be preferable. We cannot undertake to buy shares for you, but, if you wish it, we will place you in communication with a reliable firm. A. B. (Belfast).—The reply to "W. D. B." exactly fits your case also. There is hardly any market now in the shares mentioned. Pig (Limerick).—Most Rubber shares are at present rather under a cloud, and this applies more especially to the wild-rubber companies, including that mentioned. For the present the shares have dropped out of the dealings, and there is no option but to hold, in the hope that eventually they will come to the front again. E. K. (Maida Vale).—You are in this position, that you are not compelled to take up the new shares in the reconstructed undertaking, but if you do not do so, you forfeit your interest in the Company altogether. You have, however, a right to "dissent." Consult a solicitor.

Premium Bonds.—Snookered (Cape Town).—We do not advise any dealings with the firm you mention. Cunliffe, Russell and Co., 10, Place de la Bourse, Paris, would doubtless give you the information you require.

Lancashire Companies.—Constant Reader (Worsley).—Unfortunately, no information is available in London regarding either concern, and you had better make your inquiries in Manchester or Liverpool, where they should be able to tell you something about them.

Maikop Standard Oilfields.—A. R. W. (Birmingham).—(1) Yes, you forfeit your shares if you do not pay the assessment. It goes by the will of the majority. But see reply to "E. K." (2) Of course not; that is your risk. (3) This is a toss-up. The properties are not in the position on the field, but there is always a possibility of oil being struck.

Galician Standard Oil.—B. S. (Cardiff) and A. B. (Harringay Park).—We think well of the prospects of this undertaking.

Prescotts, Thompson and Co.—Enquirer (London).—We know nothing of these people beyond the fact that they describe themselves as financiers and business agents, and that their address is Birkbeck Bank Chambers, High Holborn.

4½ to 5 per Cent. Investments.—A. L. X.—The following selection of securities should answer your purpose:—Great Central 5 per Cent. 1876 Preference at 108; Grand Trunk First Preference 5 per Cent. Stock, at 108; Threlfalls Brewery 4 per Cent. Debentures, at 88; Vickers Third Debentures, at 105; and Royal Mail Steam Packet 5 per Cent. Debentures, at 103½.

British Union and National (in Liquidation).—W. S. (East Ham).—Apply to the liquidator for duplicate certificate and receipt to replace those which have apparently gone astray owing to some irregularity in the postal address.

Colonial Mutual Life Assurance Society.—Cautious.—Select another office for the £300 or £400 Endowment policy you propose to take up.

Insurance Investment.—R. J. (Brough).—An Endowment Life assurance policy combining accident and sickness benefits would probably suit your requirements. Try the Century Insurance Co., 18, Charlotte Square, Edinburgh; the Northern Assurance Co., 1, Moorgate Street, London, E.C.; the Royal Insurance Co., 1, North John Street, Liverpool; the Scottish Temperance Life Assurance Co., 109, St. Vincent Street, Glasgow; and the Scottish Union and National Insurance Co., 35, St. Andrew's Square, Edinburgh.

Abstainers and General Assurance Co.—Abstainer.—Having contributed 4s. weekly for six years under £300 policy and desiring to surrender the policy, you say that you would only receive about 25 per cent. of the premiums paid. You wish to know how you are to avoid making so heavy a loss. It is difficult to suggest any plan, as you are entirely in the hands of the Company and cannot claim a sum beyond the amount they are prepared to allow as surrender value. They might be willing to re-arrange the contract on terms by issuing a shorter period Endowment policy, although this method of meeting a policy-holder is not generally favoured by any of the Life assurance offices.

London and Provincial Assurance Co.—P. D. (Castleblayney).—This is a comparatively young institution, and is, we believe, steadily overcoming the difficulties incidental to the upbuilding of a new assurance Company. The Ordinary Branch policy-holders would appear to be fully protected by the Life Assurance funds, which at the end of 1911 stood at the sum of £99,426. We can find no sufficient reason which would justify us in recommending you to discontinue the premium payments.

Property Insurance Company.—Interested.—We have made enquiries, but are unable at the moment to obtain any definite information on the point. We expect, however, to be in a position to make an announcement at an early date.

Mutual Property Investment Co.—Dolphinholme.—It is impossible for us to give publicity to the somewhat serious statements you make. These had better be ventilated at the next meeting of the Company. In any event, we anticipate that the Board of Trade will, on the presentation of Accounts, take definite action against all Bond Investment Companies which have not complied with the Act of 1909 by making the statutory deposit of £20,000. We note your statement that the Company is registered in Scotland, and that an English certificate-holder was refused permission to bring an action on that account.

Life Association of Scotland.—J. C. J. (St. Lawrence).—The insurance for £1,000 in Class D was effected in 1896; the first bonus received was in 1905, and the second in 1910. You state that no bonus was received for 1900. If a declaration was made in respect of that period the Association would doubtless have notified you. Write them and get the point cleared up. You were led to expect that the dividend bonus would be at the rate of £4 per £100 per annum, in accordance with the anticipation set forth in the prospectus, "presented only as what may be reasonably expected by the policy-holders." We think it is a mistake to announce "anticipated" bonus additions, as disappointment necessarily arises when such expectations are not realised.

National Mutual of Australasia.—Shellback.—Our answer to your question is in the affirmative. It is quite safe and possesses funds exceeding six millions sterling. As regards National Health Insurance, the master or member of a crew of any ship registered in the United Kingdom, or of any British ship or vessel the owner of which resides or has his principal place of business in the United Kingdom, must be insured under the Act.

Equitable House Property Co.—Certificate-Holder.—We should be inclined to allow the certificates to lapse and forfeit the quarterly subscription paid. The position of all Bond Investment Companies which have not complied with the Act of 1909 is uncertain, and we should be surprised if definite action is not taken against them by the Board of Trade for non-compliance on the presentation of their accounts in the current year.

Accident Insurance.—G. B. (Middlesbro').—Try the Gresham Fire and Accident Insurance Co., St. Mildred's House, Poultry, E.C., and the Co-operative Insurance Society, 109, Corporation Street, Manchester. If they are unable to quote a rate to meet your special case, communicate with us again.

Prudential Assurance Co.—M. C. W. (Astley).—Unless you had an insurable interest in the life of the person assured (now deceased) you cannot claim the money, as it was an illegal transaction from the commencement; and, in the circumstances, unless of course you can obtain the daughters' signatures, we should advise you to accept the return of the premiums paid. With regard to the other policy you hold under similar circumstances, we should advise you to get the policy assigned to you, if the assured is willing, or a will made out in your favour. The former, however, is the best method. If you cannot obtain either of these, claim the return of the premiums.

*(A number of replies are held over).*

**By the way, don't forget "Mary Bull." A Splendid Number this week. On Sale Fridays.**

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Incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Acts.

| | | |
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| Authorised Capital | ... | £500,000 |
| Shares Issued | ... ... | 500,000 |
| Reserve Liability | ... | £236,757 |

Chairman and Managing Director
Mr. THOMAS FARROW.

**EVERY DESCRIPTION OF JOINT-STOCK BANKING TRANSACTED.**

**CURRENT ACCOUNTS.**—Accounts are opened and interest allowed where credit balances are maintained for six months.

**DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.**—Interest from 3 per cent. to 4 per cent. according to notice of withdrawal.

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# THE SUCCESSFUL SEVEN OF 1912

"It was only after the most careful enquiries that the editor of "John Bull" stated February 1st:—

"We have many times expressed satisfaction with Mr. H. Diamond's methods, and can assure our readers that from beginning to end each sweep promoted by him is absolutely straight, square and above-board."

GRAND NATIONAL (Jerry M)—BEN AINLEY 10, Hamilton Street, Old Trafford, Manchester, £500

CAMBRIDGESHIRE (Adam Bede)—W. H. BLACKSHAW, The Lea, Denham, Bucks. ..... £500

THE DERBY (Tagalie)—W. H. COWDERY, The Foresters' Arms, Covgreen, near Maidenhead, Berks ..... £500

CESAREWITCH (Warlingham)—H. COLCHIN, Junr., Woolpack, Iwade, Sittingbourne, Kent, £500

STEWARD'S CUP (Golden Rod)—T. PHILLIPS, 34, The Park, Treharris, Glam. ..... £500

THE LEGER (Tracery)—F. Smith, 241, High Street, Porth, Glam. £500

NOVEMBER HANDICAP (Wagstaff) — A. B. WYATT, 3, Falmer Road, Enfield, Middx. .....£500

# H. DIAMOND, LUCERNE, SWITZERLAND.

**Letter postage 2½d.** **Postcards 1d.**

"We may look forward to an African Petroleum Trade with the world. Great volumes of Oil ooze from the earth in many places, and this wondrous country is just as likely to fill the pockets of its exploiters with millions of money got from Oil as from any other undeveloped product," says a recent Cape Government publication.

The occurrence of Petroleum in many parts of South Africa is an established fact, but no systematic or scientific attempt has yet been made to prove its existence in payable quantities.

## THE CONSOLIDATED OIL FIELDS OF SOUTH AFRICA, LTD.,

has recently been formed with a capital of £250,000 divided into shares of £1 each, for the purpose of seriously exploiting, for the first time, these known Oil regions.

The Company has provided for a working capital of £50,000, and has acquired exclusive rights for working **Oil and all other Minerals**, for a period of ten years, over 150 square miles in the Ceres district, Cape Province—together with the option of acquiring the freehold of the properties at any time during that period.

Eminent Oil experts have certified to the petroliferous character of the ground.

**Mr. Wm. W. Van Ness**, for instance, says: "All these farms showed marked indications of the existence of Petroleum. On none did I find any indication of the strata being disturbed by the intrusive action of any igneous rock. Contraction has caused a folding of the strata from West to East, forming a series of synclines and anticlines, the troughs and ridges of which trend North and South. On farm Wagonsboom River, the lay of the strata is favourable to the accumulation of Oil in large quantities. **The formation is almost identical with the great Oil-producing fields of Alleghany, McKean, Warren and Venango Counties, Pennsylvania. I have no hesitation in recommending you to sink a well on farm Wagonsboom River. A pipe line could be constructed, over a natural gradient, to reach Cape Town from this farm within 100 miles.**"

**Mr. Frank L. Chapman** says: "The synclinal and anticlinal formation is very marked and regular, and nowhere did I find the slightest sign of any intrusive basaltic dykes or sheets, or the evidence of any igneous or eruptive action having taken place. **The presence of the 'Rainbow Flake' so persistently and over such a large area, is an all-sufficient reason for putting down a well in this locality. I consider the natural gas proof positive of the existence of Petroleum below, this being undoubtedly Petroleum gas, and not mere marsh gas. The formation of the country corresponds to that of the Oil regions of Pennsylvania and Ohio. Were this ground, as it now is, with merely the indications to go upon, in the States, it would be split up into hundreds of lots, and would realise from £80 to £100 per acre, going to £500 per acre as soon as the first barrel of Oil had been produced.**"

**Mr. Moris Mencher** states: "**I am convinced, after my examination of the country, that Oil exists in large quantities in the district of Ceres.**"

**Mr. J. E. Mills-Davies**, referring to the iridescent films seen in the district, states that he investigated the question fully, with the result that he was satisfied that "**their origin from hydrocarbon gaseous or oily compounds derived from Petroleum is a matter that cannot be doubted.**"

**Mr. W. Gasson**, in concluding a "Report on Samples of Water and Deposit from Cere District with regard to their bearing Petroleum or indications," says:—"**The results of thi examination clearly indicate that these samples are from Petroleum springs.**"

**Mr. H. G. Hubbard states: "I collected some of the iridescent film and tested it. From the results given I unhesitatingly pronounce this film to be the result of condensation of the lighter bodies contained in the Petroleum, which escape in the form of gas. I am perfectly certain that these rainbow-coloured films are produced by Petroleum and nothing else."**

**"The Guide to South and East Africa," issued by the Union Castle Mail Steamship Company, Limited, says:—"The chain of hill-encircled plains near and to the north of Ceres undoubtedly contain deposits of the mineral (Petroleum) in question. It is only found in payable quantities in places where the later deposits of rock have remained practically undisturbed by the intrusion of igneous matter, conditions which are fulfilled in this locality."**

These remarks refer to the identical locality in which the Company's lands are situated.

The operations of the Company will not be confined to the Ceres district, and the acquisition of certain valuable Oil Shale properties in the Transvaal is being considered.

**A very high authority, in London, states, concerning a sample of this shale—"Destructive distillation yielded a quantity of crude oil of a light brown colour. The amount worked out to 62½ gallons per ton of Shale, and from the appearance of the oil, I judge it to be rich in paraffin wax. The sample is the most promising of any I have recently examined."**

Mr. J. E. Mills-Davies, A.I.M.M., of Johannesburg, who is one of the most highly esteemed Mining authorities in South Africa, and perhaps the leading authority there on the geology of Oil, has undertaken the responsibility of advising the Company professionally, and is now on the Company's properties in the Ceres district, locating boring sites.

As soon as Mr. Mills-Davies' Report is to hand, drilling operations will be commenced.

The Company is a parent undertaking, and beyond sinking test wells from time to time on various portions of the properties, it will not embark upon commercial trading. Its policy will be to dispose of Oil rights over given areas to subsidiary Companies, retaining a substantial interest in them, and reserving to Shareholders in the Company a preferential right to allotment of shares in such subsidiary Companies.

The potentialities of the Company are enormous. According to a leading American authority, its £1 shares may at any moment attain the value of £200 from its Oil rights alone. Its other mineral rights are also, undoubtedly, of great value.

---

**It will be seen that the Consolidated Oil Fields of South Africa, Limited, is embarking upon an enterprise of an altogether exceptional character, and that it may easily become one of the richest corporations in the world.**

**Full particulars of the Company may be obtained by dropping a Postcard to the South African Petroleum Exploration Syndicate, Limited, 80, Coleman Street, London, E.C.**

# 60,000
# BULLETS PRIZES ALREADY AWARDED.

Over 60.000 Bullets Prizes have already been awarded. This week we again offer £400 FOR THE BEST BULLET RECEIVED.

## FIRST PRIZE - - £400

PRIZES VALUE £1,720

SECOND PRIZE - - - - £50
THIRD PRIZE - - - - £25
Ten Prizes of £2 10s. each.

A Large Number of £1 and 10s. Prizes,
200 Prizes of 7/6
AND

PRIZES VALUE £1,720

## 5,000 OTHER VALUABLE PRIZES.

Bullets can only be constructed from any of these 40 Examples:—

THE SPRING
WHAT SUFFRAGETTES DESERVE
ELIZA ANN
WEDLOCK
AUCTION SALES
DARK ROOM
WHITE LIE
BOUGHT AND SOLD
SLOW TRAIN
NOT ENGAGED
THE BOAT RACE
HOME LIFE
OVERTIME
MOST DIFFICULT
WE ALL ENJOY
HIGH FLIER
PETTY CASH
SOMETIMES
HEROISM
TAKING WAYS
RICH UNCLE
THE BLUES
HIS MAJESTY
FINDING THE LADY
WHITE ELEPHANT
SHUT UP
MILKMAID
MOST UNLUCKY
VERY FAST
MR. McKENNA
MOVING PICTURES
NOTHING
BRITISH BOYS
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SCHOOLMASTER
WHEN COURTING
PICCADILLY
BRITISH AEROPLANES
BIG PROFIT
A NUISANCE

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EVERY BULLETS COUPON RECEIVED IS SLOWLY AND CAREFULLY READ BY OUR SPECIAL STAFF OF ADJUDICATORS. AFTER WHICH ALL THE COUPONS ARE READ A SECOND TIME WITH THE SAME TROUBLE AND CARE.

### HOW TO MAKE BULLETS.

First choose any of our forty examples. Then give two words or three words having some bearing on the example chosen. The FIRST and LAST word selected MUST begin with ANY OF THE LETTERS in the example chosen. If three words are selected any word can be used as the middle word.

For instance, if you take the example "MOST DIFFICULT" and take the letters "T" and "M" using the word "become" as the middle word, you can make the Bullet "TO BECOME MILLIONAIRE." Or from the example, "HOME LIFE," the Bullet, "MANY ENJOY," can be formed. Again, if you take the example "SHUT UP," using the letter "S" as initial for both the first and last word, you can form the Bullet "SCHOOLBOYS OFTEN SHOUT."

**Competitors who have already won any prizes, large or small, in this competition are in no way debarred from winning again.**

Competitors can send in two BULLETS on one coupon for sixpence, but if both coupons are used a postal order for one shilling must be sent.

The ink will not run if the coupon is slightly warmed before being used.

Closing date, Wednesday, March 19th.

Example _____
Bullet _____

Example _____
Bullet _____

(24) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditionsannounced on this page, and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signed _____
Address _____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

Not more than three words may be used to construct a Bullet.

This week's Bullets Coupons will also be found in "MARY BULL," dated March 22nd.

Closing date, Wednesday, March 19th.

Example _____
Bullet _____

Example _____
Bullet _____

(24) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditionsannounced on this page, and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding

Signed _____
Address _____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

If Both Coupons Are Used a Postal Order for 1/- Must Be Sent.

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS NO. 24," "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

Write "COMPETITION" on top left hand corner of Envelope.

### "BULLETS" RULES (*which must be strictly adhered to*).

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the editor, assisted by a competent staff of adjudicators, is the best Bullet received, and the other prizes in order of merit. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved.
2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons on this page, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon.
3. Both coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d. made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed _____ & Co _____ Competitors must write their names and addresses, and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Stamps will not be accepted.
4. Coupons must not be cut or defaced in any manner, or have portions of another coupon pasted upon them.
5. Entries must reach us not later than the first post on the morning of Wednesday, March 19th.
6. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet reaching him shall receive careful consideration by a competent staff; but the Editor will not hold himself responsible for coupons lost or mislaid.
7. No correspondence can be entered into concerning this competition.
8. The Editor's decision on all matters concerning this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

# RESULT OF TWENTY-FIRST BULLETS COMPETITION.

## FIRST PRIZE OF £400:—

**Mr. J. C. SMITH,**
**White Swan Hotel, High Street, Sunderland.**

Example: ARDENT LOVER.
Bullet:—"LINGERING" DISEASE.

## SECOND PRIZE OF £50:—

**Mr. A. C. PATERSEN,**
**12, Jeffrey Street, Riccarton Kilmarnock, N.B.**

Example:—WHEN OLD.
Bullet:—OSCULATION CALLED "NONSENSE."

## THIRD PRIZE OF £25

**IS DIVIDED BETWEEN:—**

**Mr. A. E. WILLS,**
**37, Elderfield Road, Clapton Park, N.E.**

Example:—TIME.
Bullet:—TRAVELS SLOWLY MONDAYS.

And:—

**Mr. R. WATSON,**
**Ducton, Northampton.**

Example:—TIME.
Bullet:—INVARIABLY LOST MONDAY.

## TEN Prizes of £2 10s. are awarded as follows:

Mr. V. TAYLOR, Woodlea, The Avenue, Marton S.O. Yorks. (AWKWARD FIX:—INTENDED DOESN'T INTEND); Mr. S. ANDREWS, 37, Churchfield Mansions, Hurlingham, S.W. (HARD OF HEARING:—DRIVERS AFTER ACCIDENTS); Mr. E. JAMES, 196, Holland Park Avenue, W. (MY OLD MAN:—AN "UNREMITTING" NUISANCE); Mr. V. S. CORY, 47, Westbourne Road, Handsworth, Birmingham (FIRST SWEETHEART:—WAIST "BECOMES" FREEHOLD); Mr. R BAYLISS, Imperial Billiard Hall Stoney Stanton Road, Coventry (STARVATION:—THE JOCKEY'S TRAINING); Mr. H. THURGOOD, 120, Victoria Road, Edmonton, N. (NAUGHTY BOY:—TRIES BOUNCING BABY) Mr. W. EVANS, 6, Grosvenor Road, Watford, Herts (CAN'T SAY NO:—CERTAINLY "BAR'S" SUCCESS); Mrs. AGNES MARLOWE, 79, Granville Terrace, Bradford Road, Batley, Yorks (MY OLD MAN:—"ADJUDICATOR"—WINNER—"ME"); Mrs. E. BROOKS, 52, Greyhound Road, Fulham, S.W. (FIRST SWEETHEART:—ABLE TO FABLE).

## £2 10s. divided between the 10 lowing:—

Mr. A. LOWACK, 57, Bishopsgate, London, E.C. (LIME-LIGHT:—EXASPERATES MORMON MISSIONARIES); Mr. W. GEORGE, 57, Kinsale Road, Peckham Rye, S.E. (LIME-LIGHT:—MORMON CRUSADE EXTINGUISHES).

## 10 PRIZE WINNERS of £1 EACH.

ARNOLD, T. F., 69, Arthur Street, Huddersfield.
ELY, W., 106, Ambler Street, Castleford, Yorks.
HOWE, M. Mrs., 29, Culliford Road, Dorchester.
KISSACK, C., Mrs., Ellesmere Ballure Mount Ramsey, I.O.M.
MILESON, J., 5, Portland Road, Wyke Regis, Weymouth.
ROYLE, T., Heath Road, Ditton, Widnes, Lancs.
WARD, L. G., 31, Whitley Street, Reading, Berks.
WATSON, S., 22, Conway Road, Southgate, N.
WILKINSON, E., 11, Richmond Road, Walthamstow.
YORKE, A., Colenso, 43, Oakley Road, Shirley, Southampton.

## 20 PRIZE WINNERS of 10s. EACH.

BAIN, A. C., 151, St. Asaph Road, Brockley, S.E.
BANKS, J., 314, Entwisle Road, Rochdale.
BLOOM, A., 350, Heneage Road, Grimsby, Lincs.
BREEN, Mrs. W., 28, Rosebery Road, Cape Hill, Birmingham.
CAVIGAN, Mrs., 22, Walker Street, Burton-on-Trent.
ESHELBY, H., 7, Calvert Road, Hastings.
FLETCHER, S. B., 126, Hungerhill Road, Nottingham.
FREEMAN, Miss N., 12, Cloudesley Square, N.
GOSTLING, S, 2, Yew Grove, Cricklewood, N.W.
GRATTON, H. E. G., 12, Edgar Road, Sanderstead, Croydon.
HEDGES, G. 125, Foundry Lane, Southampton.
JONES, A. H., H.M.S. "Alarm," Invergordon, Scotland.
MOORE H., Battledown, Tewkesbury.
PALMER, B. H., 58, Maitland Park Road, Hampstead, N.W.
PENHALE, Mrs., 76, Grantham Road, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.
REID, W., Craigmore, Bexhill-on-Sea.
ROBERTSON, A. C., 34, Summerfield Terrace, Aberdeen, N.B.
SCARLETT, A. M., 25, Fountain St., Hr. Tranmere, Birkenhead.
SHIPHAM, C., 58, Churchgate, Stockport.
TAYLOR, LAURA, 51, Southern Street, Seedley, Manchester.

## LIST OF 200 PRIZE WINNERS OF 7s. 6d. EACH. "BULLETS" COMPETITION NO. 21.

**A Selection from the List of 5,000 winners of valuable Prizes can be seen in "Mary Bull," dated March 29th.**

Abson, T. R., Manchester-rd., Stocksbridge, Sheffield.
Adams, H., 11, Smith-st., Guernsey.
Adams, A. E., 182, Meadvale-rd., Ealing.
Adshead, J., 2, Queen's-rd., Cheadle Hulme.
Allen, H., 15, Glendower-st., Dowlais, Glam., S. Wales.
Anderson, J. D., 78, Ledard-rd., Langside, Glasgow.
Ashford, W., 57, North John-st., Liverpool.
Atkinson, T. H., 36, Queen's Head-st., Islington, N.
Austin, G., 62, Marmion-rd., Southsea.
Baker, F. A., 43, Rudloe-rd., Clapham Park, S.W.
Baker, A. H., Helperton, Trowbridge, Wilts.
Barton, Mrs. A., Markyate, Jennings-rd., St. Albans.
Beaton, J. M., 65, Oswald-st. (City), Glasgow.
Bebbington, F., 149, St. Albans-ave., Bedford Park, W.
Benton, F. J., 242, Station-rd., King's Heath, Birmingham.
Birchall, G., Norris-st., Fulwood, Preston, Lancs.
Bishop, W., Rose Villa, Ponsanooth, near Perranwell Station, Cornwall.
Bolton, J., 181, Warwick-rd., Carlisle.
Booth, Mrs. E., 35, Market-place, Olney, Bucks.
Booth, S., 20, King's-rd., Leeds.
Boys, H. J., 12, Douglas-rd., Esher, Surrey.
Bott, Mrs. F., 35, Wentworth-st., Malton, Yorks.
Braybon, S., 27, Rattray-rd., Brixton.
Brimelow, C. F., 20, St. Barnabas-rd., Sheffield.
Broadhead, Mrs. J., 53, Kensington-rd., Morecambe.
Broomfield, W., Thurle Grange Gardens, Streatley, Berks.
Brown, S. R., 9, Cranbrook-ave., Hull.
Brown, Mrs. W. R., 2, Brook-ter., Norton, Malton.
Brown, G. A., 215, Gloucester-ter., Hyde Park, W.
Brown, W., 44, High-st., Guildford, Surrey.
Baker, R. W., Barleythorpe, Oakham, Rutland.
Brueton, Corpl. W., "G" Co., 2nd Bn. Lancs Fusiliers, Citadel, Dover, Kent.
Buchanan, Mrs. E. F., 10, Aberdour-rd., Goodmayes, Essex.
Castle, J., 137, Turncroft-lane Stockport.
Cave, L. J., 17, Mansfield-rd., Nottingham.
Chapman, M. E., South-lane, Market Rasen, Lincs.
Chetterton, Miss, 14, Cornhill, Bury St. Edmunds.
Clark, T., Stenson-rd., Old Normanton, Derby.
Clark, A. T., 29, Abbotsbury-rd., Westbourne, Weymouth.
Clarke, Mrs., 4, Lansdowne-ter., Weymouth.
Collins, R., 1, Fitzroy-st., Ipswich.
Constable, T., Hurstwood, Uckfield, Sussex.
Cook, A. C., 2, Elizabeth-st., Bradford, Yorks.
Cooke, N., 13, Karslake-rd., Sefton Park, Liverpool.
Cooper, B. J., 4, Spring-gdns., Buxton, Derbyshire.
Cox, J. A., 4, Portland-st., Hereford.
Cox, C., 6, Cobden-st., Walsall.
Crampton, A. E., 49, Ashmore-rd., Paddington, W.
Cranston, W., Conan House, 6, Edith Villas, West Kensington, W.
Currie, H., 15, Harris-st., Middlesbrough, Yorks.
Dale, C. E., 23, Botanic-av., Belfast.
David, Mrs. I., 33, Hillmorton-rd., Rugby.
Day, Mrs. E., 21, Hardman-rd., Kingston, Surrey.
Dollond, A. W., Westcroft, Salisbury-rd., Carshalton, Surrey.
Dron, C M., Sutherland House, Surbiton, S.W.
Duncombe, R., 20, Swanscombe-st., Canning Town, E.
Edmonds, H. B., Waterford House, Rede Court, Strood, Rochester, Kent.
Edwards, T., 54, Folkestone-rd., Dover, Kent.
Egrett A., 15, Tennyson-ave., Rock Ferry, Birkenhead.
Ellison, I. H., 28 Chaworth-rd., West Bridgford, Nottingham.
Evans, D. O., White Rock, Bridgend, S. Wales.
Evans, D. M., Dyfrid House, 24, Sandfield-row, Burry Port.
Evans, T., 45, Liverpool-st., Salford, Manchester.
Evans, A. E., 15, Park-rd., Bargoed.
Everitt, Mrs. G. A., 2, Prince's-ave, Liverpool.
Fairweather, Mrs. E., 6, Hawthorn-rd., Willesden Green, N.W.
Fillery, K., High-st., Uckfield, Sussex.
Finch, F., 5, Springfield-rd., South Tottenham, N.
Fisher, F., 16, Home Park-rd., Wimbledon, S.W.
Fitzsimmons, F. J., 15, St. Domingo-grove, Liverpool.
Flude, F., Kirkby rd., Sutton-in-Ashfield.
Fox, W., 20, Portland-pl., Mottram-rd., Stalybridge, Cheshire.
George, H., 11, High-st. Fishguard, Pembs.
Gordon, J. R., 44, Stafford-st., Oban. N.B.
Greenwood, A. H., 34, Albany-rd., Sheffield.
Gregory, H. W., 206, Manningham-lane, Bradford, Yorks.
Griffin, J. J., 4, East-st., Albert-st., King's Lynn, Norfolk.
Gulland, G. W., 378. New Hall-lane, Preston, Lancs.
Gummer, C., 192, Grangehill-rd., Eltham.
Hall, T. 13. I, Peabody's Buildings, Essex-rd., Islington, N.
Hallam, J., Cpl., C Co., The Buffs. Portobello Barracks, Dublin.
Halman, Mrs. W., 34, Cranbrook Park, Wood Green, N.
Hands, H. J., 12, Deer Park-gdns., Richmond, Surrey.
Hardy, Mrs. M. A., 15, Queenwood-ave., Bath.
Harrison, F., 292, Camberwell-rd., S.E.
Harry, Millicent, "Ferndene," 19, Morrab-pl., Penzance, Cornwall.
Hart, G. E., 287, Francis-rd., Leyton.
Hartland, Miss J., 22, Oak-st., Belle Vue, Shrewsbury.
Harvey, A., 58, Spittal-sq., Marlow, Bucks.
Haynes, J., 6, Ridley-rd., Willesden, N.W.
Hayward, W., 4, Douglas-st., New Cross.
Hedley, E., 66, Dixon-st., Lincoln.
Henbest, Mrs. R., Salsfield, Marnhull-rd., Poole, Dorset.
Hennessy, L., 12, Wind-st., Dowlais, S. Wales.
Hunt, J. J., Myrtle Villa, Cowper-rd., Harpenden, Herts.
Hewett, G., 14, Kirkley-rd., Wimbledon.
Hindell, Mrs. F., Connaught House, Newmarket.
Hodgson, Mrs. M., 32, Evelyn-ave., Thornbury, Bradford, Yorks.
Hogan, Miss M. E., Claragh, Vevay-rd., Bray, Co. Wicklow.
Hookins, A., 16, Gordon-ter., Rochester.
Jacobs, L., 1, The Poplars, Crescent-rd., Bognor, Sussex.
Johnstone, A., 62, Amelia-st., Warrington, Lancs.
Jones, Gwendoline, 35, Chichester-rd., Portsmouth, Hants.
Jones, B., 117, Winterbourne-rd., Thornton Heath, Surrey.
Kennedy, R. K., A.S.A.A., 115, Upper Leeson-st., Dublin.
Kerbey, W., Pear Tree Cottage, Alperton, Wembley, Middlesex.
Kevis, H. J., 20, Royston-rd., Penge.
Kilmaster, W., 59, Churston-ave., Upton Park, Essex.
Kimber, Mrs. F., Highclere, Hutton Mount, Shenfield, Essex.
King, W., 3, Chester-grove, Albemarle-st., Hull.
Kirchner, Francis, Pleasant-view, 21, Sunnyside-rd., Ilford.
Knox, E., 52, Viaduct-st., Bethnal Green-rd., E.
Lamb, H. R., 17, Vicar-st., Kidderminst'r.
Lancaster, J. T., 134, St. James-rd., Blackburn, Lancs.
Lane, T. V., 2, Ashbrooke-rd., Upper Holloway, N.
Laverick, Mrs. H., Leam-lane, Simonside, Tyne Dock.
Leach, C., Grosvenor Cottage, Grosvenor-pl., Exeter.
Leuty, J. R., Foudroyant, Falmouth Cornwall.
Levander, H. J., Mellor, Derbyshire.
Lloyd, F. R., Cransley House, Cheddar-rd., Taunton.
Lonnie, P., 37, St. John's Cottages. Montrose, N.B.
Lonnie, Mrs., 37, St. John's Cottages, Montrose, N.B.
Mallett, G., 32, Esme-rd., Sparkhill, Birmingham.
Margrie, H., Trythall, Woolston, nr. Southampton.
Martin, Alice, 40, Devonshire-st., Theobalds-rd., W.C.
MacDonald, J. P., Piper, A. and S. Highlanders, Fort George, Inverneshire, N.B.
MacPherson, C., West End, Bonar Bridge, N.B.
McKaig, H., 72, Cornwall-rd., Brixton Hill, S.W.
McMillan, G., 185, New King's-rd., Fulham, S.W.
McRae, W., 68, St. Helen's-gdns., North Kensington, W.
McRobbie, H., 49, Dunbar-rd., Forest Gate, E.
Meek, G., Morse-rd., Drybrook, Glos.
Middleton, H., 1, Gladstone-rd., Hexthorpe, Doncaster.
Mitchell, W. M., 131, George-st., Paisley.
Monk, E. H., 21, Denzil-rd., Neasden, N.W.
Moody, Mrs. H., 4, Braemar-pl., Dundee.
Moore, J., 73, Hartington-st., Sunderland.
Muir, Jessie, c/o Morrison, 8, Scotia-st., Glasgow.
Needell, Miss B. K., 49, Brownswood-rd., Finsbury Park, N.
Nettleton, Mrs., Hewthwaite-ter., Carnforth, Lancs.
Nevin, E., 22, Saltwell-st., Bensham, Gateshead-on-Tyne.
Newton, I., 8, Union-st., Mansfield, Notts.
Norman, Wilfred, 57, Evington-st., Leicester.
Norman, H. R., 3, Montpelier-ter., Teddington.
Ostler, F., Oswestry House, 6, Nelson-rd. C., Gt. Yarmouth.
Outram, Wilfrid, 188, School-rd., Sheffield.
Pacey, E., 21, Alexandra-rd., South Norwood, S.E.
Parker, L., 268, Gray's Inn-rd., W.C.
Partridge, J., 28, Undercliff-rd., Lewisham.
Payne, Miss Alice, 29, Far Gosford-st., Coventry.
Pearson, Mrs. J., Cloneen, Earlswood-rd., Belfast.
Pexton, R., 442, London-rd., Sheffield.
Phillips, J., 104, Mount Pleasant, Uttoxeter, Staffs.
Poole, H. C., Goldcroft, Yeovil, Somerset.
Price, A., Inugarden, Rye, Sussex.
Price, H. B., 709, Old Kent-rd., S.E.
Quaintance, Mrs. F., 10, Clarendon-ave., Leamington, Warwickshire.
Ray, C., 6, Scipio-st., Sumner-rd, Peckham, S.E.
Rhodes, Mrs. F., Ashley, King's Somborne, Hants.
Richmond, Miss C. A., 1, Mansfield Villas, Church-rd., Bexley Heath.
Roberts, J. H., 32, Oakwood-rd., Uplands, Smethwick, Birmingham.
Robinson, Miss M., 508, Whippendell-rd, Watford, Herts.
Roche, T., 20, George-st-gdns., Brighton.
Roper, H. B., Beechworth, Havant.
Rutherford, Mrs. A., 26, Drummond-rd, Hoylake, Cheshire.
Saunders, R., 16, Whitehill-rd., Gravesend.
Scott, W., 15, Newington Green, N.
Shaw, Geo. T., 35, Thirlmere-st., Leigh, Lancs.
Shaw, G. F., 8, Wagg-st., Congleton, Cheshire.
Simmonds, Miss A., 21, Upper Addiscombe-rd., Croydon, Surrey.
Slavin, J., 125, Coventry-drive, Dennistoun, Glasgow.
Smith, P., The Nook, 41, Wellesley-rd., Croydon.
Somerfield, Mrs. A., 7, Farfield, Kidderminster.
Stafford-Northcote, C. C., Tarrant Luton, Blandford, Dorset.
Stanley, Nellie, 18, Thornsett-rd., Anerley, S.E.
Stephens, E. (employee), "Empire," 15, Albert-st., Birmingham.
Stevenson, H. C., Chapelhill, Ardrossan, Ayrshire.
Swaffer, R. I. H., 22, Redesdale-st., Chelsea, S.W.
Taylor, A., c/o McCabe, 98, East Claremont-st., Edinburgh.
Taylor, G., 68, Menzies-st., Liverpool.
Taylor, S. G., Mentone-ave., Aspley Guise, Beds.
Taylor, G. E. High School (Staff), Middlesbrough.
Terry, H. E., Wrentham, Burgess Hill, Sussex.
Thomas, R., 9, Newland-ave., Hull.
Thompson, G. W., s.s. "Borderland." Wellington Dock, Liverpool.
Waite, H., c/o F. Cryer, 40, Elden-rd., Marsh, Huddersfield.
Walsh, Miss F., The Glen, Station rd., Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex.
Walters, Annie, 31, Miers-st., Swansea.
Walter, A., 36, Plumstead-rd., Woolwich.
Wardell, E. A., 5, Killicks Hill, Portland, Dorset.
Warren, F., 13, Khartoum-rd., Plaistow.
Waterer, C R., 11, Beechcroft-ave., Golder's Green, N.W.
Way, J. P., 41, Park-st., Bristol.
Webb, W. K., 3, Fleetwood Maisonettes, Herne Bay, Kent.
White, A. E., 151, Cowley-rd., Oxford.
Williams, Mrs. F. M., Tuson's Corner, 1, New Park-rd., S.W.
Williams, Miss E. A., Old Curiosity Shop, Carmarthen.
Wilson, H., 13, Warwick-rd., Bootle, Liverpool.
Wood, W. E., 51, Oldham-rd., Ashton-under-Lyne, Manchester.
Youngs, W., 119, Charlemont-rd., East Ham.

**Complete List of 5,000 Winners of Valuable Prizes can be seen at the "John Bull" Offices.**

# Racing Notes.

The market on the Lincolnshire and National is now settling down, and after Rathnally's easy victory at Hurst Park on Saturday, there is no question that he must be favourite for the National and very nearly win it, too. I hear good accounts of Cigar for the Lincolnshire, but at the same time Castleton will prove to be very strongly fancied before the day of the race.

**Prophetic.**

At Cheltenham to-day (Wednesday) Parakitoe may take the Grand Annual Steeplechase, and Ben a Beg the Cotswold Hunt Flat Race. On Thursday Black Plum is best for the National Hunt Steeplechase, and

Gael Riu

looks good for the County Hurdle.

At Newbury on Friday, the best things are Ebonette for the United Services Cup, Short Grass for the Spring Hurdle, and Thowl Pin for the Grand National Trial Steeplechase. On Saturday the United Services Hurdle shows

Garinish Island

in the light of a good thing. Granted a run, Marcellinus will take the Newbury Steeplechase, whilst Long Water looks good enough for the Army and Navy Steeplechase.

### A USEFUL SPORTING ANNUAL.

We have received a copy of "Gale's Sporting Annual," published by "Gale's Special," Ruskin Buildings, Corporation Street, Birmingham, at 6d. net., which is a veritable mine of information on sporting matters. It is beautifully illustrated and is a cheap sixpennyworth.

We have also had sent to us a copy of Douglas Stuart's rules for the forthcoming Flat Race season—the feature of which, of course, is the No-limit and the Place Betting when Favourite starts "odds on" Undoubtedly Mr. Stuart has firmly established himself as the People's Turf Accountant.

### SPORTING REPLIES.

*The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith*

Smallman and Terry (Geneva).—J. W. (Sheffield).—Perfectly straight.

Jas. Rutherford (Copenhagen).—Victoria.—We should certainly not advise you to go in for this man's Sweeps.

John M'Lauchlan.—Hon. John.—Any complaints we have received have been promptly and fully dealt with.

Anglo Turf Club (Vevey).—W. G. C. C. (Ipswich).—We should not advise you to have dealings with this firm.

"John Bull" Derby Sweep.—W. J. B. (Southend).—You must apply to Mr. Patrick O'Brien, Geneva, for tickets. As we stated last week, we are precluded from acting as agents for the transmission of money. S. W. C. (Chatham).—We should not recommend you to take tickets in the sweepstake run by Alexander Maclean, but, of course, the John Bull Derby Sweepstake is perfectly genuine. A. J. L. (Bedminster).—We shall be surprised if the prize money is not considerably increased. W. J. H. (Handsworth).—The draw will take place a few days before the Derby is run, and the result will appear in our issue published on June 4th. C. W. (Skegness).—We have stated that the books contain nine tickets, and if you take a whole book it will cost you £1, so you will be entitled to a free ticket, which will, of course, participate in the draw. A. J. M. (Coventry).—In addition to the prizes, amounting to at least £10,000, and probably more, we have stipulated that £1,000 shall be distributed amongst English charities, under our personal supervision. A. A. (Sheffield).—Do not participate in G. Bates's Sweep. We have satisfied ourselves that everything connected with Mr. Patrick O'Brien's John Bull Derby Sweepstake will be carried out in a perfectly straightforward manner. H. G. S. (Bournemouth).—We shall personally superintend the draw of the John Bull Derby Sweepstake, and you may rely upon it being absolutely straight. H. W. (Blackburn).—You can, of course, take tickets in an assumed name. Ickle (Dorchester).—You must apply to Mr. Patrick O'Brien direct. Geneva will be sufficient address. H. A. W. (Hackney).—Why not "go halves" with your friend in a ticket, taking it either in your name or his? A. R. (Aberdeen).—We have returned your postal order, as you must forward it to Mr. Patrick O'Brien direct. We have already pointed out that we cannot act as agents for the transmission of money. Ynisher.—Remittances can be made to Mr. Patrick O'Brien by postal orders, which, for safety, should be registered.

Calcutta Derby Sweepstake.—K. M. G. (Berlin).—Tickets are now only issued to members of the Calcutta Turf Club, and are consequently not available to members of the general public. This has prompted Mr. Patrick O'Brien to inaugurate the John Bull Derby Sweepstake. See our article on another page.

James Ferguson (Birsfelden).—J. F. (Rathkeale).—Enquirer.—We should not recommend you to take any tickets in this sweep.

Leslie Murray and Co. (Binningen).—J. H. (Battersea).—We congratulate you upon your success and note that you are thoroughly satisfied with the way you have been treated by this firm.

The Totalisator (Lucerne).—Q. E. D. (Mount Mellick).—A respectable firm.

Bouveret Turf Club.—M. W. (Eastbourne).—We have already explained that there is no guarantee of the prizes mentioned in connection with this Club's Sweepstake, and that the amount distributed is entirely dependent upon the sum subscribed by the public.

Carlton Sports Club.—Several correspondents having complained of the delay in receiving their prizes in connection with the Waterloo Cup Sweep, we are assured by the promoters that such delay was due to the serious illness of "the Director," and all amounts have now been remitted.

A. Fairburn and Co. (Geneva).—G. S. (St. Leonards).—The people who, we believe, are behind this firm are well known over here, and are of good repute, but we do not know to what extent they supervise the sweepstake—nor have we any personal knowledge of the manner in which their sweeps are conducted.

Spencer Dale and Co.—W. S. (Liverpool).—We are making enquiries.

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# Football Selections from the Principal Papers.

## Matches to be played Saturday, March 15th, 1913.

**In view of the enormous interest now taken in the competitions conducted by numerous papers, the following table of selections compiled from the principal football authorities will be found to be an extremely useful guide—**

| | Matches played on ground of first-named team. | Last Year's Result. | JOHN BULL | Lotinga's Weekly. | London Mail. | Umpire. | Sunday Chronicle. | Weekly Dispatch. | News of the World. | Competitors Guide. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| —SOUTHERN LEAGUE— | Newcastle Un. v. Blackburn Rovers | Newcastle won 4—2 | Home | Home | Draw | Home | Home | Draw | Home | Home |
| | Sheffield Un. v. Derby County | No Game. | Draw | Home | Home | Draw | Home | Home | Home | Home |
| | Bolton Wanderers v. Tottenham H. | Bolton won 1—0 | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home |
| | Liverpool v. Middlesbrough | Draw, 1—1 | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home |
| | Aston Villa v. Notts County | Villa won 5—1 | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home |
| | Manchester Un. v. Sunderland | Draw, 2—2 | Home | Home | Home | Home | Away | Draw | Away | Draw |
| | Oldham A. v. Sheffield Wednesday | Oldham won 1—0 | Draw | Draw | Away | Draw | Draw | Away | Draw | Draw |
| | Chelsea v. Everton | No Game | Home | Home | Home | Draw | Home | Home | Away | Draw |
| | Woolwich A. v. West Bromwich Albion | W. Brom. won 2—0 | Home | Home | Draw | Away | Away | Home | Away | Away |
| | Bradford City v. Manchester City | Bradford won 4—1 | Home | Home | Draw | Away | Draw | Draw | Home | Draw |
| | Burnley v. Bury | No Game | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home |
| | Clapton O. v. Huddersfield Town | Orient won 2—1 | Home | Home | Home | Draw | Home | Home | Home | Home |
| | Glossop v. Leeds City | Glossop won 2—1 | Draw | Home | Home | Draw | Draw | Draw | Home | Home |
| | Hull C. v. Grimsby Town | Hull won 1—0 | Home | Home | Home | Draw | Home | Home | Home | Home |
| | Leicester Fosse v. Bradford | Leicester won 3—0 | Home | Home | Home | Draw | Home | Draw | Away | Home |
| | Lincoln City v. Birmingham | No Game | Draw | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Draw | Home |
| | Notts Forest v. Bristol City | Notts F. won 2—0 | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home |
| | Preston N. E. v. Fulham | No Game | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home |
| | Stockport C. v. Barnsley | Draw, 1—1 | Away | Draw | Draw | Away | Away | Draw | Draw | Away |
| | Wolverhampton v. Blackpool | Wolves won 3—1 | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home |
| —1ST LEAGUE— | Bristol Rovers v. Stoke | Draw, 2—2 | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home |
| | Swindon T. v. Millwall | Swindon won 4—1 | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home |
| | Portsmouth v. Brentford | No Game | Home | Home | Home | Draw | Home | Home | Home | Home |
| | Exeter City v. Queen's Park Rangers | Draw, 1—1 | Draw | Draw | Draw | Draw | Away | Draw | Home | Draw |
| | West Ham Un. v. Northampton | Northampton won 2—0 | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Draw | Home | Home |
| | Brighton and Hove v. Gillingham | Brighton won 7—0 | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home |
| | Coventry City v. Norwich City | Coventry won 3—0 | Home | Home | Draw | Home | Draw | Home | Home | Home |
| | Watford v. Reading | Draw, 1—1 | Draw | Away | Away | Draw | Draw | Home | Draw | Draw |
| | Merthyr Town v. Southampton | No Game | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Draw | Home | Draw |
| | Crystal Palace v. Plymouth A. | Plymouth won 1—0 | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home | Home |

**Home** signifies first mentioned team to win—**Away** second mentioned team to win.

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